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129 U.S. WARPLANES DOWNED, DAMAGED IN SATURDAY'S RAID

27 Carrier Planes Shot Down Added to Friday's Results, I.H.Q. Reveals

Counterattacking the American carrier-borne planes that raided Japan Proper on February 17, Japanese Forces shot down 101 and damaged 28, the Imperial Headquarters announced in its communique issued at 4 p.m. on Sunday.

The same communique also revealed that a total of 27 planes shot down was added to the previously announced war results gained by the Japanese in the intercepting battle with the carrier-borne planes that carried out raids on February 16.

The communique follows:

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS' COMMUNIQUE
4 p.m., February 18

"1. The war results of the counterattacking battle with the carrier-borne planes that attacked Japan Proper on February 17 follow:

Shot down .... 101 planes
Damaged .... 28 „

"17 planes self-blasted or have not yet returned on our side.

"Damage to ground facilities was slight.

"2. The shooting down of 27 planes was added to our war results gained in the battle with the carrier-borne planes that came attacking on February 16 as was announced on February 17."

Task Forces Retreat

Following up the raid over the Kanto district and Shizuoka Prefecture on February 16, American planes—about 600 in all—hopped off the next day, from the aircraft-carriers of the task forces which had appeared in the neighboring waters of Japan Proper and again directed their attacks on the same areas principally striking at air bases and airplane factories.

Vigorously counterattacking the hostile planes, Japanese Anti-Air Raid Forces shot down a total of 101 fighters and bombers besides damaging 28 others.

As revealed by the Imperial Headquarters, the shooting down of 27 carrier-borne planes was added to the previously announced war results obtained by the Japanese in the severe engagement with the ship-based aircraft that carried out a series of raids on February 16.

Consequently, the Japanese have blasted more than 353 U.S. carrier-borne planes or one-fourth of the air strength of the enemy task forces in a two-day battle. Against the heavy enemy losses, the Japanese loss was only 78 planes which self-blasted or have failed to return to their bases.

In face of the fierce Japanese attack on Saturday the carrier-borne planes were forced to halt their operations shortly after 1 p.m.

Meanwhile, the U.S. task forces that appeared in the neighboring waters of Japan Proper on February 16 appeared to have withdrawn to the Ogasawara sea area. However, the future activity of the retreated enemy task forces is being watched with much attention as an enemy fleet has been bombarding and bombing Yiojima Island since February 16.

British Exports Slump Hard

Domei

LISBON, February 17.—Great Britain's exports in 1944 amounted to £258,000,000 sterling which is only 54 per cent of the British exports of the last prewar year, it was announced by the British Board of Trade, according to a London dispatch. Out of this amount the special exports to the Soviet Union increased by £14,-100,000 sterling compared to last year, but the ordinary export amount to the South American countries declined by £10,000,000 sterling and especially to Argentina whereas in 1944 only goods valued at 22.5 million sterling were exported which is one-fifth of the 1938 exports. Exports to Chile and Brazil also declined by more than 50 per cent, the dispatch concluded.

2 New Army Commanders

Colonel Yoshio Kamekawa has been appointed Commander of the Kochi Regimental District and Colonel Haruji Haruta made Commander of the Nara Regimental District.

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7 Argentine Diplomats Arrested in Germany; Relations Are Strained

Domei

LISBON, February 17.—The Argentine Foreign Office today admitted that Argentine-German relations have become strained because Germany has detained seven Argentine diplomats as prisoners, according to information from Buenos Aires.

SOVIET FORCES LAUNCH ATTACKS NEAR RATIBOR

Fierce Tank Battle Continues; Red Army Takes Sagan in Upper Silesia Operation

Domei

ZURICH, February 17.—Field dispatches say that the Red Army has completed the encirclement of Breslau from the west, north and south, while General Konev's men aiming at Dresden have reached a point eight kilometers from the Saxony border. In view of the increasing pressure on Berlin by Konev's forces, German Volkssturm and other troops have been deployed to the area southeast of the capital in growing numbers and are carrying out frontal counterattacks.

Domei

BERLIN, February 17.—The south and north flanks on the Oder bend were marked by heavy fighting in the past 24 hours and a new assault made by the enemy north of Ratibor led to a big battle. In lower Silesia the town of Sagan was lost. On the whole, however, the situation changed only a little.

A lively activity of the Soviet battleplanes was a prelude to a new major attack by the enemy north of Ratibor. Strong tank forces ran up against the German lines and precipitated a major battle which is still continuing. Southwest of Breslau Marshal Ivan Konev's 1st Ukrainian Army lost 25 tanks when it tried in vain to widen its penetration area between Streslen and Karth. On either side of Bunzlau and at Sagan, the Soviet attacks at first led to some territorial gains in the course of which the town of Sagan was lost, but further to the west the Soviet assault was halted. At Christianstadt the Soviet bridgehead across the Oder was pushed by Konev's troops but was thrown back across the Bober and Werft Canal. Large-scale attacks begun on the day before against Breslau was on the whole beaten off and some penetrations were sealed off.

Marshal Gregory Zhukov's most westerly front between Gruenberg and Kuestrine was silent also in the past 24 hours. Between the Oder and the Arnswalde area heavy offensive and defensive fighting raged throughout the day.

Marshal Konstantin Rokossovski's 2nd White Russian Army troops incessantly continued their assaults on the German defense lines between Landeck and Graudenz. In the forest area at Tucheler Heide and west of Graudenz they succeeded at various place in penetrating deeper into th German lines where heavy fighting is still going on.

Furious battle is going on at the old focal points in the east and south of Braunsberg and west of Mehlsack as well as on both sides of Zinten. In spite of the wide area of penetration, troops of General Ivan Cherniakovsky of the 3rd White Russian Army did not succeed in breaking through. In this front sector alone the Soviets lost 105 tanks and 54 cannons.

The Soviet attack near Pyritz-Arnswalde has been checked by strong German counterthrusts. Between Gruenberg and Zuellicehu the enemy has not been able to reestablish firm command. Expansion of the front has, therefore, slackened for the time being as there exists a weak Soviet deployment area between Fuerstenberg and Kuestrin which s also temporarily delaying a large-scale attack on Berlin.

Wang Ching-Wei Rites Held

Domei

SHANGHAI, February 17.—A ceremony commemorating the 100th day of the demise of Wang Ching-wei, the late President of the National Government of China, was held at the Hall of Ceremonies of the Shanghai Municipal Council this morning with Chou Fu-hai, Mayor of Shanghai, and official and civilian representatives in attendance.

STIFFER STRUGGLES BALK ENEMY DRIVES IN WEST FRONT WAR

Stronger German Defense Measures Prove Success in Frustrating Anti-Axis Push

Domei

BERLIN, February 17.—The main feature of fighting on the Western Front in the past 24 hours was the further stiffening of German resistance. Between the lower Rhine and the Meuse as well as on the Sauer, the fighting led to a clear German defensive success. The Americans made slight territorial gains with great losses in this fighting.

The assault made by the 1st Canadian army between the lower Rhine and the Meuse has almost come to a standstill under the effective German counterattacks. Inundations produced by the Rhine which is in flood enabled the Canadians and the British to attack only in a few places. These attacks failed, however, in the face of concentrated German defensive fire. The latest battle areas are the Kleve-Calcar road and the region southeast of Gennep. The Canadians were able to make only one narrow penetration west of Louisendorf, but this penetration was sealed off immediately in a counterthrust.

On the Sauer, the German troops likewise repulsed all allied thrusts aiming to expand the bridgehead at Echternach toward the north. In spite of strong support by air and artillery forces the American attacks broke down at the heights west of Ferchweil. Attempted minor penetrations north and northeast of Echternach were only little more than 100 meters. In Oracholz bolt, German Volksgrenadiers recaptured in stubborn fighting east of Testingen several pillboxes. In the bridgehead of Saarlautern American patrols were repelled whereas in the Blies sector the Americans did not continue their attacks owing to high losses of day before.

The second focal point of fighting on the Western Front on Friday was located in the area of the lower reaches of the Sauer where troops of the 3rd American army employing considerable forces continued stubborn attempts to expand their bridgehead between Wallendorf and Echternach toward the north and northeast.

In the hotly disputed Orscholz barrier between the Sauer and Moselle a dramatic fight for ten large West Wall pillboxes has just been ended. The fight for this pillbox group went on for 100 hours. After the troops of the 3rd American army had gotten possession of this pillbox group the Germans launched a heavy counterattack. The Americans who had already established themselves permanently in these pillboxes were overwhelmed and killed or taken prisoner.

NEW POLITICAL BODY SET

7 Members of Yukoku Giin Remmei Tender Resignations

With preparations nearly completed for the formation of a new political party, the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association is expected shortly to send letters of invitation to Diet members and representatives of all circles concerned with a view to organizing a preparatory committee for the establishment of the body.

In this connection, brisk activities have been in progress for some time among the Diet members of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association while latest indications show that many of them are opposed to the principle pursued by the leaders of the Association, preferring independent, positive political actions on the part of the Diet members.

Seven members of the Yukoku Giin Remmei, one of the groups formed in connection with the proposed establishment of the new political party, including Colonel Kingoro Hashimoto, met Admiral Seizo Kobayashi, President of the Association, on Saturday afternoon and tendered their resignations as members of the same Association.

Lone B-29's Raid Tokyo

Two B-29 bombers raided Tokyo on the night of February 17. The first raider appeared shortly after 8:30 p.m. and the second at 11:30 p.m. Another B-29 raided Hamamatsu at 2:30 a.m. the next day. Some bombs were dropped.

Bomb-Laden Balloons From Japan Hit U.S. Mainland; Confusion Rife

Attacks Confirmed by Authorities as Source of Mysterious Explosions, Fires Over Wide Area—500-Odd Casualties Up to December 20

Domei

CANTON, February 16.—Mysterious ballon attacks against the United States mainland launched from Japan have been confirmed as the cause of unexplained outbreaks of explosions, fires and mountain fires in various localities throughout the United States according to reports reaching here and Washington and Montana dispatches reveal that casualties caused number more than 500 up to December 20. Damage losses are estimated to be greater than generally suspected.

The American people, especailly in the states where the strange "apparition" have been seen are said to be thrown into a stage of great excitement and confusion and wild rumors are spreading unchecked despite strict restrictions enforced by the authorities.

Reports reaching here disclosed a sudden outbreak of numerous explosions, fires and mountain fires of unexplained origin in various parts of the United States since last fall causing a large number of casualties. Police authorities in the states have maintained a complete silence concerning the incidents and the people were strictly forbidden to reveal anything concerning them.

On December 11 of last year however a report was issued that a large-sized balloon laden with incendiary bombs and bearing Japanese inscriptions was discovered near Kalispell, Montana, in northwestern America confirming for the first time that the special Japanese air attacks were the causes of the heretofore unexplained cases of fires and explosions. Great confusion bordering on the state of panic spread throughout the United States upon learning of the Montana incident.

The Office of War Information in San Francisco issued an official communique which confirmed the local report. "On December 11 a large-sized balloon laden with incendiary bombs and bearing Japanese inscriptions was discovered near Kalispell, Montana. It is presumed that the balloons have compartments capable of carrying several persons but authorities have denied the belief that the balloons were employed to land destruction agents on the mainland."

Since October of last year numerous eye-witness accounts speaking of actually seeing strange "apparitions" flying eastward at night with considerable speed were received from the states of Montana, Wyoming, Nebraska and Idaho and all sorts of rumors were spread connecting these objects with the outbreaks of explosions and fires.

Endeavoring to check the rise of confusion among the people, another announcement was issued by U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation. It stated that the "enemy have started to attack our home front" and that recently "Japanese balloons have been landed on our mainland capable of causing destruction." It warned that full precautions must be taken to combat the new menace.

Fresh outbreaks of explosions and fires continued to further fan the confusion among the people. The authorities avoided making any announcements concerning the actual degree of the damage caused, but unofficial reports from Washington and Montana reveal that the total casualties caused by the balloons exceed over 500 up to last December 20 and losses caused are greater than generally believed.

'Hinomaru' Balloons Streak Across U.S. On Flaming Mission

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 16.—The January 1 issue of Time magazine discloses that balloons clearly bearing the Japanese "hinomaru" insignia have been known to fly silently eastward across the American mainland causing fires whenever and wherever its bag of incendiaries, hanging at the end of a 70-feet fuse, comes into contact with any hard object. Authorities assigned to investigate the mysterious balloons believe that they are launched from Japanese submarines lying off the Pacific coast. It has been learned, further, that the balloons are constructed to catch fire as soon as they hit a foreign object and the whole burning mass is scattered over the area.

Mystery Balloon Described

Domei

SHANGHAI, February 17.—The official announcement issued by the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation described the giant ballon with Japanese inscriptions discovered near Kalispell, Montana, on December 11 last, as measuring 33 feet in diameter and loaded with explosives while a Montana report said it was capable of traveling at the rate of 200 miles an hour. The announcement said that the balloon, camouflaged and made of a special and strong type of paper, has a gas capacity of over 18,000 cubic feet and is capable of carrying a 800 pound load. It carries explosives which are presumably set off automatically.

A Kalispell report quoting local police authorities said that the balloon has free mobility, and that it is not a weather observation balloon. It said that the explosives attached to the balloon were six-inch bombs made of aluminum and an oxidizing agent. Over 500 people have actually see the balloon where it was discovered, and although the authorities have placed a strict silence ban on them, the rumor is strong that the balloon was used to bring in destruction causing agents.

BATTLE IN LUZON SECTOR SHIFTS NORTH OF MANILA

Marikina Enemy Is Smashed; Japanese Penetrate San Juan and Del Monte

By T. TADA
Of the Military Press Corps

LUZON FRONT, February 17.—The battlefield on Luzon Island has spread toward the north of Manila and the Japanese who have been carrying out large-scale offensives since the night of February 14 have inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy forces.

The enemy entrenched in the outskirts of Manila opened fire against Montalban on the afternoon of February 14. However, Japanese Raiding Units, on the night of the same day, closed in on Marikina in Rizal Province and smashed the enemy.

At the same time, other Japanese Units divided into two groups penetrated the enemy positions at San Juan and Del Monte in the eastern outskirts of Manila and set ablaze enemy equipment. Japanese Units on the spot have been also dealing smashing blows to the enemy forces which had attempted to advance eastward from Angat in Bulacan Province. War results obtained in this area included 500 casualties suffered by the enemy, 35 trucks either blasted or set afire and an immence number of ammunition and foodstuffs captured.

Enemy troops operating in the Clark Field sector directed a concentric fire against the Japanese position on the height west of Bamban on February 9, and finally tore through one point of the Japanese position. Against the enemy invaders, the Japanese have been carrying out furious counteroffensives and inflicting heavy losses, and as the result the enemy's activities in the Bamban area have slackened since February 13.

No conspicuous development in the war situation has been so far witnessed on the northern front since the Japanese stationed north of San Jose wiped out the enemy troops in a smashing hand-to-hand fight on the night of February 12. At the San Nicolas and Umingan areas, the enemy is now construction positions.

Some 350 enemy aircraft are seen parked at Lingayen, San Fabian and Dagupan airdromes, which have been mainly employed in attacking the Japanese positions north of Manila. The enemy has also begun using his airfield at Clark Field.

Study Post-War Employment

Domei

LISBON, February 17.—Australia asked the United States today to consider the calling of an international conference to consider post-war employment problems, according to a dispatch from Washington. The dispatch said that the request was made by Sir Frederick Eggleston, Australian Minister in Washington.

NIPPON UNITS SMASH LANDING ON YIOJIMA; 8 U.S. SHIPS BLASTED

Gallant Action of Japanese Garrison Forces Revealed by Imperial Headquarters

Units of the Japanese Garrison on Yiojima repulsed the American forces which tried to land on the island under cover of severe shelling and bombing attacks at 10 a.m. on February 17, the Imperial Headquarters announced in its communique issued at 6:20 p.m. the same day.

Acting in unison, Imperial Japanese Air and Garrison Forces sank or damaged eight enemy warcraft including one battleship, two cruisers, two warships of unidentified category, and three transports, besides shooting down 10 planes, the same communique added.

The communique follows:

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS' COMMUNIQUE
6:20 p.m., February 17

"1. Under the protection of heavy shelling and bombing, enemy forces attempted to land on Yiojima Island at about 10 a.m. on February 17, but our Garrison Forces promptly repulsed them.

"2. Of the war results which have been obtained by our Air and Garrison Forces in counterattacking the enemy warships around the said island since February 16, those ascertained up to the present follow:

Instantaneously
sunk .. 1 battleship
Sunk .... 2 cruisers
Sunk .... 2 warships of unidentified category
Damaged 3 landing transports
Shot down 10 planes."

Continue Landing Attempts

Imperial Japanese Garrison and Air Forces on Yiojima Island sank or damaged eight U.S. warships including one battleship, two cruisers, two warships of unknown category, and three transports besides shooting down 10 hostile planes, and also repulsed the U.S. forces that tried to land on the island under the cover of fierce bombing and bombardment operations on the morning of February 17.

At 10 a.m. the enemy tried to land on Yiojima at two places on the eastern shore of the island, but the Japanese counterattacked the invaders and drove them back. In this engagement the enemy suffered tremendous losses.

After laying a thick barrage over the entire length of the southern coast of the island, the enemy forces again approached the shore to make a landing, but they failed.

Despite their failures, the American forces are continuing their persistent attempts to force a landing. Enemy warships are still operating in the waters around the island while a convoy is in the rear.

LT. GEN. NINOMIYA PASSES

Former Education Minister Dies of Illness on Saturday

Lieutenant General Harushige Ninomiya, former Education Minister, died at the Tokyo Imperial University Hospital at 3:25 p.m. on Saturday. He was 67 years old.

Lieutenant General Ninomiya hailed from Okayama Prefecture. Commissioned as a Sublieutenant in 1901, he was promoted Lieutenant General in 1930 and placed on the reserve list in 1934. During his military career, he served as military attache to the Japanese Embassy in London, Chief of the General Affairs of the General Staff Office, Vice-Chief of the Army General Staff and Commander of the Fifth Division.

He became president of the Citizen-Manchoukuo Development Company in 1936 and president of the Manchoukuo Development Cooperation in 1940. He was appointed Education Minister on July 22 of last year in the Koiso Cabinet and was relieved of his post on February 10 on account of illness.

U.S. Navy Losses Rise

Domei

LISBON, February 17.—The U.S. Navy Department announced today that the navy casualties up to February 15 totaled 88,838 including 33,-536 killed, 40,607 wounded, 10,221 missing and 4,474 prisoners of war, according to a Washington dispatch.

Lone B-29 Damaged In Ramming Attack Over Nagoya Sector

A Japanese fighter plane in an aerial fight with a lone B-29 which penetrated the skies over Nagoya City and its vicinity on February 17, launched a daring ramming attack and damaged the "super fortress."

5 ARMY FLIERS HONORED FOR DESTROYING B-29'S

Posthumously Promoted, Decorated for Ramming Nagoya, Tokyo Raiders

The special posthumous promotions by two ranks for Major Yoshio Hirose and four other Army officers who blasted B-29 bombers in ramming attacks over Tokyo and Nagoya in December of last year were announced by the War Ministry on Sunday.

The announcement follows:

"The following promotions have been made:

"Major Yoshio Hirose promoted to rank of colonel.

"Sublieutenant Yasuo Watanabe promoted to rank of captain.

"Captain Osamu Kawakami promoted to rank of lieutenant colonel.

"Sublieutenant Tadao Nakamura promoted to rank of captain.

"Sergeant Major Takeo Yoshida promoted to rank of sublieutenant."

Simultaneously, the conferment of various orders of the Golden Kite and of the Rising Sun upon the five Army airmen was announced by the Bureau of Decorations and the War Ministry on the same day.

Colonel Hirose was awarded the Second Class Order of the Golden Kite and the Third Class Order of the Rising Sun.

Captain Watanabe was awarded the Third Class Order of the Golden Kite and the Fifth Class Order of the Dual Rayed Rising Sun.

Lieutenant Colonel Kawakami was awarded the Fourth Class Order of the Golden Kite and the Fifth Class Order of the Dual Rayed Rising Sun.

Captain Nakamura was awarded the Fourth Class Order of the Golden Kite and the Fifth Class Order of the Dual Rayed Rising Sun.

Sublieutenant Yoshida was awarded the Fifth Class Order of the Golden Kite and the Seventh Class Order of the Rising Sun with Blue Paulowina Leaves.

As commander of a Fighter Plane Unit, Colonel Hirose attacked the enemy planes before they penetrated the skies over Nagoya on December 22. After singlehandedly damaging one large enemy bomber, he downed another by ramming actions, thereby meeting glorious death.

Captain Watanabe, a member of the Shinten Anti-Air Raid Unit of the Special Attack Corps rammed and downed one B-29 out of a formation of seven planes when they attacked Tokyo on December 27. He was killed in action.

Lieutenant Colonel Kawakami carried out a ramming attack and damaged one B-29 in the counterattacking operations against the enemy raiders over Nagoya on December 22. He met gallant death in action.

Captain Nakamura in an aerial fight with a formation of seven B-29's over Okazaki on December 13 downed one plane in a ramming onslaught.

Sublieutenant Yoshida who shot down one enemy plane over Toyohashi on December 22 also rammed and downed one of nine enemy aircraft in fight over Tokyo Bay on December 27.

7 ENEMY WARSHIP SUNK

German Submarines Attack Strong Convoy Off Murmansk

Domei

FUEHRER'S HEADQUARTERS, February 17.—German submarines stationed in the Arctic commanded by Captain Reinhard Suhren have sunk off Murmansk seven fully laden convoy vessels totaling 47,-500 tons from strongly protected Allied convoy which also included an aircraft carrier. The convoy was en route to Murmansk from England. Among the vessels sunk was a Panaman tanker of 9,500 tons.

Thus the sinkings reported during the past three days amount to 14 vessels totaling 95,500 tons. Despite extraordinarily unfavorable weather conditions, the U-boats chased the convoy for days through the Arctic and caught the convoy shortly before it reached its destination. The convoy had been attacked once before in the north Atlantic by German torpedo-carrying airplanes which sank from the convoy four vessels and five escort destroyers.

JAPANESE SUBS SINK U.S. PLANE CARRIER, CRUISER, DESTROYER

Enemy Hit W. of Lingayen; 18 More Warcraft Smashed Off Yiojima, I.H.Q. Says

Japanese submarines sank one aircraft carrier, one cruiser, and one destroyer in a morning attack on an enemy task force in the area west of Lingayen on February 17, the Imperial Headquarters announced in its communique issued at 3:30 p.m. on Sunday.

A total of 18 U.S. war vessels including four cruisers, three warships of unidentified category, two mine-sweepers, and nine transports has been added to the previously reported number of enemy warcraft sunk or damaged by the Japanese Air and Garrison Forces on Yiojima Island on and after February 16 in the battle with the enemy fleet, the same communique disclosed.

It was further revealed that the sinking of one cruiser and two warships of unknown category as previously reported has been cancelled.

The communique follows:

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS' COMMUNIQUE
3:30 p.m., February 18

"1. Our submarines attacked an enemy task force in waters west of Lingayen on the morning of February 17 and sank one aircraft carrier, one cruiser, and one destroyer.

"2. To the war results obtained by our Air and Garrison Forces in their attacks on the enemy warships around Yiojima Island on and after February 16 as previously reported was added and deducted.

"(1)—Added. The instantaneous sinking of three cruisers and three warships of unidentified category, the sinking of two mine-sweepers and four landing transports, as well as the damaging of one cruiser and five landing transports.

"(2)—Deducted. The sinking of one cruiser and two warships of unidentified category."

FOREIGN POLICY OF U.S. CRITICIZED BY CHANDLER

Senator Declares America Stood Too Long 'In The Shadow of the British'

Domei

LISBON, February 16.—Asserting that the United States has stood too long "in the shadow of the British," Senator Albert Chandler, Kentucky Democrat, today endorsed the suggestion of Senator Homer Ferguson, Michigan Republican, that "it's up to the U.S. State Department to take over," according to a Washington report.

The statement was made when a bi-partisan senatorial group challenged the State Department today to evolve a national policy for advancing foreign trade and protect overseas investments of the United States Government.

Agreeing with the views propounded by Chandler and Ferguson, Senator Ralph Brewster, Maine Republican, told reporters that the State Department "should come to Congress for statutory authority it needs."

"We ought to quit winning back possessions for other nations, then moving out and going home," Chandler said. "All we've done is take over, abandon and retreat. The British are always on hand to take over possession and control."

The interview came on the heels of a war investigation committee reported by Senators James Tunnell, Democrat of Delaware, and Harold Burton, Republican of Ohio, who reported that the United States virtually has no postwar rights in radio stations and air bases it has constructed all over the globe.

Domei

Tito's Transports Attacked

LISBON, February 17.—The headquarters of Yugoslav Marshal Joseph "Tito" Brosovitch's army yesterday announced that four German "human torpedo boats" penetrated Split harbor on the Dalmatian coast and attacked "Tito" army's transports lying at anchor, says a London dispatch.

[illegible] ARIMA SET EXAMPLE [illegible] NIPPON NAVY AIRMEN

[illegible]-Crashing Spirit of Late [illegible] Inspires Subordi[illegible] to Heroic Action

[illegible] is the second instalment of Mr. [illegible] article exhorting every member [illegible] the Japanese nation to exert [illegible] in overcoming the present [illegible] situation. Mr. Onoda is a [illegible] of the Military Press Corps [illegible] returned recently from the [illegible] battlefront.

(Continued From Yesterday)

"It was Vice-Admiral Masabumi [illegible], Commander of the Navy Air [illegible] Force, who inspired the [illegible] spirit of the Navy Air Force [illegible] the Philippines and electrified the [illegible] by crashing himself [illegible] his plane against an enemy [illegible] in order to show that this [illegible] was the means to gain victory. [illegible] not touch on the special attack [illegible] which were adopted by a cer[illegible] fighting air squadron in this [illegible].

"The heroic death of Vice-Admiral [illegible], who sank a regular type ene[illegible] aircraft carrier by crashing [illegible] plane onto it, shows why our [illegible] air pilots are powerful and [illegible]. The indomitable con[illegible] of the officers and men of [illegible] Navy Air Force promises cer[illegible] victory for Japan. The body-[illegible] spirit of Vice-Admiral Ari[illegible] was not created in a day. I re[illegible] that the serious aspects of the [illegible] benevolent countenance of Vice-Admiral Arima, whom I en[illegible] on Mindanao, Cebu and [illegible] Islands, already bespoke his [illegible] even at that time. I [illegible] in the words and conduct [illegible] Vice-Admiral Arima, during my [illegible] with him, that his only [illegible] was of victory for his coun[illegible]. He once spoke to me as fol[illegible]:

"'We did not expect the War of [illegible] East Asia to be an easy one [illegible] the beginning. There has been, [illegible], a tendency among the peo[illegible] to underestimate the enemy be[illegible] of the unexpected great vic[illegible] which were achieved by Japan [illegible] the initial stage of the war. [illegible] is, and has been, fully cogni[illegible] of the fact that materially she [illegible] inferior to the enemy. Even a [illegible] knows that ten is more than [illegible]. The Japanese people fully com[illegible] that the differences in [illegible] arms determine the out[illegible] of war.

"'Regardless of this fact, however, [illegible] must win at any cost. It is [illegible] to display the spiritual [illegible] of the Japanese people, which is without comparison in the [illegible], to its maximum degree in [illegible] to win this war. There is no [illegible] means to win over the enemy, [illegible] our fewer planes, than through [illegible]-crashing tactics.

"'I happened to be in command [illegible] aircraft carrier during the sev[illegible] air battles off Bougainville Is[illegible]. It was through the body-[illegible] tactics by Japanese planes, [illegible] sank enemy aircraft carriers [illegible] another, that we were able [illegible] almost annihilate the main [illegible] of the enemy task forces [illegible] greatly outnumbered us. I [illegible] believe that the only way to [illegible] over the enemy, who possesses [illegible] quantitative superiority in ma[illegible], is to have one plane sink [illegible] enemy warship by crashing [illegible] it. There is no need to select [illegible] in order to win. The enemy [illegible] certainly come in full force with [illegible] numerical superiority while we [illegible] passing our time in debates and [illegible].'

"With the advent of September, [illegible] air raids against the Philip[illegible] from their task forces and [illegible] in Wiak, Halmahera and [illegible] Islands became further in[illegible]. When the air battles off [illegible] were raging at their fiercest [illegible] October 15 last year, Vice-Ad[illegible] Arima, ignoring the efforts of [illegible] officers to dissuade him, led [illegible] in person and hurled him[illegible] and his plane into the midst of [illegible] enemy task force in the seas east [illegible] the Philippines and sank one [illegible] enemy aircraft carrier.

"A certain fighting air squadron [illegible] organized the Shinpu Special [illegible] Corps, is the nucleus of the [illegible] Wind. "It was reorganized [illegible] August last year under the ex[illegible] direction of such men as [illegible] Y, Deputy Commander [illegible] and Flight Commander N., Cap[illegible] Seiki and other Unit comman[illegible] and Deputy commanders who [illegible] supported their su[illegible] officers, while the members [illegible] entire squadron united to [illegible] their fighting strength. [illegible] with a pure and incompar[illegible] fighting spirit, the members of [illegible] air squadron prepared them[illegible] against the enemy invasion. [illegible] news of the heroic death of [illegible] Arima, leading his [illegible] deeply impressed the members [illegible] squadron who had revered [illegible] as a benevolent father. They [illegible] that the way to victory lay [illegible] crashing themselves bodily [illegible] the enemy.

"[illegible] Shinpu Special Attack Corps [illegible] organized when large enemy [illegible] invaded the Philippine sector [illegible] members of the air squadron [illegible] the news of an imminent at[illegible] the Japanese Fleet. They [illegible] to annihilate the enemy task [illegible] sure-death body-crashing tactics. Ten units including the Shikishima Unit were organized on October 20, which opened the Shinpu special attacking operations against the enemy. Within the short period from October 25 to November 13, they either sank or damaged 11 aircraft carriers, one battleship, one cruiser and nine transports. The reason why this air squadron was able to fulfill its mission in the grave war situation as forerunner of the Shinpu Special Attack Corps was because the deep loyalty and patriotism of each member of the squadron had been crystallized and united as one. These results were not achieved in a single day. The following are some of the examples which I encountered as a reporter attached to the Shinpu Special Attack Corps since October 8.

"Colonel Y. Commander of this special air squadron, always reminded his men that their squadron would be the one to pave the way toward victory in the War of Greater East Asia. The enthusiasm and energetic fighting will of Commander Y, the loyal aid of Deputy Commander Lieutenant Colonel T and Flight Commander Lieutenant Colonel N, were fully reflected in the other members of the air squadron. Commanding officers and their men were united as one. In the meantime, the squadron fought against enemy bombings and suffered a rather heavy casualty both in the air and on land. The fighting will of the men, however, was heightened, all the more. The determination of the squadron to crush the enemy became more consolidated with each additional hardship. That the special attacking spirit was born spontaneously among the members of the squadron is illustrated by the fact that the men petitioned their superior officers to allow them to go on a 'one-way' attack against the enemy each time they heard of the courageous fighting by the Japanese officers and men on Pelliu and Morotai Islands. Sublieutenant Tadahiro Sakai, who fell in action while fighting a horde of enemy deck-based planes which raided Cebu Island on September 12, presented a written opinion to his commander just before his death in which he requested the 'execution of a sure-death and sure-killing weapon' and permission to allow him to be the first to test such a 'weapon.'

"Unit Commander Captain Usaburo Suzuki proposed the attacking of enemy aircraft carriers by fighter plane units, a thing hitherto unheard of in the history of aerial warfare, when Manila was subjected to the first air raid by an enemy task force. He carried out a surprise attack with a few 'Zero' fighter planes against a group of enemy warships on September 22 and achieved the initial results of damaging two large carriers and one heavy cruiser besides setting ablaze planes on two medium-size aircraft carriers. The majority of the men who had participated in the attack did not have experience in dive-bombing. The big results were achieved because the entire personnel possessed a determined attacking spirit which originated from their belief that it was up to them to effect a turning point in the war situation.

"Captain Suzuki, veteran of the air battles over Guadalcanal, New Guinea and the Central Pacific, finally met a heroic death during the air battle off Taiwan on October 13. Following is the will left by him to the 100,000,000 people of the Empire:

"'As long as we have the ability and the planes to win over the enemy, we are confident of being able to accomplish our mission even with an inferior number of planes. It is my eager desire that the home front fully comprehends the determination and strength of the enemy and that it produces a sufficient number of planes for us who are fighting with indomitable and unswerving strength.'

(To Be Continued)

Deportation From U.S. Of Charlie Chaplin Is Urged by Senator

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 17.—The deportation of Charles Chaplin, famous Hollywood movie comedian, who has been involved in a series of court trials concerning his questionable moral conduct, was urged by Senator William Langer of North Dakota, today, according to a report to the Stockholms Tidningen. The report said that Senator Langer demanded the California state prosecutor to start immediate investigations as regards Chaplin's moral conduct and to decide whether or not to deport him to a foreign country. Chaplin, British Jewish multi-millionaire, has been a resident in the United States since 1910.

British Submarine Sunk

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 17.—The British Admiralty today announced that the 2,053-ton submarine Porpoise having failed to return within the scheduled time has been declared as lost, says a London dispatch.

GERMAN NAVAL FORCES HELP ARMY OPERATIONS

Successfully Intervene in Fighting at Elbing and East Prussian Sectors

Domei

BERLIN, February 17.—Admiral Alfred Saalwaechter, Transocean correspondent, gave the following comment on the latest supreme command's bulletins announcing that the German naval forces had successfully intervened in the fighting in Elbing and the East Prussian areas and thus considerably relieved the heavily fighting army units.

He said: This is not the first time that the German naval units have intervened in the fighting by the German army. Starting with the operations in Norway in 1940 and the conquest of the Baltic islands of Crimea, on the Kertch Straits, in the capture and defense of the Greek islands, in the Aegean Sea, and to the large evacuation operations of the army from these and other areas which became necessary as the result of treason by the former Allies, the German navy could render valuable services to the army the same as it did by its fight against the enemy supply service which is again on the upgrade.

"How effective and decisive the employment of warships can be for landing operations was evidenced in the Anglo-American invasion on the French channel coast last summer. These strongest Units of the two biggest navies supported by exceedingly large number of smaller craft could be employed to their full firing power and thus could form an umbrella of fire of considerable dimensions up to 30 kilometers from the shore without having to fear concentration of strong German naval forces expecially as the shallow waters off the Channel coast then prevented the intervention of otherwise so much dreaded German submarine arm. The German submarines at that time did not have "air mast" which has recently repeatedly mentioned in the supreme command's bulletins and which would have enabled their employment even in those waters.

"If this German invention could have been employed at least the Anglo-American losses would have been far higher and perhaps the opening of protective fire umbrella of major ships would have been impossible. But it is idle to speculate on these possibilities now."

Fuehrer's Headquarters

February 17

In the course of fighting between Lake Balaton and the Danube which went on for weeks and have now been concluded, formations of the Army and the Waffen SS shattered strong Soviet formations. Between January 1 and February 15, the enemy lost in the area of one of our armies more than 5,100 prisoners, 2,045 tanks and stormguns, 2,727 guns of all kinds, 3,194 mortars and 2,774 vehicles. The Luftwaffe intervened many times in the ground fighting and destroyed another 202 tanks and stormguns, 322 guns of all kinds and 1,300 vehicles. The casualties of the enemy are considerable.

Numerous Soviet attacks broke down before our positions in Slovakia. At Schwarzwasser fighting still continues, while north of Ratibor the enemy reopened his attacks with tank and battleplane support. Between Strehlen and Kanth, 25 Soviet tanks were destroyed when strong enemy attacks were repelled.

On both sides of Bunzlau and Sagan, the enemy at first was able to gain ground but was then stopped. Sagan, however, was captured by the enemy.

At Christianstadt, Volkssturm Units repelled the Soviets across the Bober and Werft Canal. Attacks directed against the fortress of Breslau were repelled and some dents were cut off.

In the southern part of Pomerania, heavy attack and defense engagements ensued between the Oder and the Reetz. The Soviet assault which continued on a wide front in West Prussia between Landeck and Graudenz resulted in dents in terrain of the Tucheler Heath and west of Graudenz. The terrain is difficult to observe and the cutting off of these dents is still in progress. In Posen the struggle is going on for the heart of the city.

In East Prussia, a bitter struggle took place yesterday also in the gravity centers south of Braunsberg, east of Mehlsack and on both sides of Zinten. The enemy succeeded in extending his dents but his breakthrough aims were frustrated by our infantry. The enemy in these engagements lost 105 tanks and 54 guns. The Soviets attacking with locally collected forces northwest of Doplen were repelled with the exception of one dent which in the meanwhile has been cut off after 28 enemy tanks have been destroyed. In bitter air combats over the eastern battleground, 32 Soviet planes were shot down yesterday.

At the west Norwegian coast, our fighters intercepted a British bomber formation approaching with fighter protection. An enemy attack on a German convoy was prevented and seven enemy fighters were shot down.

In the west, the Canadian army threw fresh divisions into the battle yesterday, and after very strong preparation by artillery the enemy attacked our front with concentrated forces. But the attack was foiled in our main fighting field with high enemy casualties after numerous tanks had been destroyed. East and southeast of Gennep enemy attacks proved unsuccessful and the Canadians suffered very high casualties here also.

In the fighting area of the lower Sauer, the Americans reopened their strong attacks during the afternoon and evening, and after bitter fighting the enemy pushed back slightly our positions. In the Remich sector at the Moselle, our troops recaptured all pillboxes which had seen lost temporarily, while enemy attacks at Saarlautern were smashed. East of Saargemuend we also held our positions on the heights against the freshly attacking enemy after a fluctuating fighting. One German shocktroop north of Neuenburg crossed the Rhine, dynamited several pillboxes and returned to our lines with many prisoners.

Anglo-American terror planes attacked yesterday western and southern Reich territory and residential quarters of various towns in Muensterland and at the lower Rhine were badly hit. Low level attacks caused further losses to the population.

The retaliatory fire on London continues.

Peak Higher Than Mt. Everest Is Found By Enemy Airmen Flying Over N.E. Tibet

Domei

LISBON, February 16.—A mountain higher than Mt. Everest 29,002 feet high which has been generally believed to be the highest in the world, has been discovered by British airmen flying over the northeastern sector of Tibet.

In this connection, a Reuter dispatch from London further revealed that when some British transports cruising over the India-China air transportation route reached the northeastern sector of Tibet maintaining an altitude of 32,000 to 34,000 feet, the crews noticed a high mountain peak soaring as high as themselves. Greatly interested in the peak which they had never seen on the map, they passed by it on their way to India from China. As a result of investigation, they ascertained that the mountain is as high as 32,000 to 34,000 feet. Furthermore, it is certain that the newly-discovered peak is not Mt. Everest. It has been, thereupon, named Mt. Shangrila, after the mountain which appears in James Hilton's novel, "Lost Horizon," it is further reported.

TRADITIONAL FESTIVALS OF CHINA ARE DESCRIBED

New Year Celebration Starts When Kitchen God Is Sent Up to Heaven

(Continued From Yesterday)

In some parts of China, the fifth day of the fifth moon is also known as Wu Tuh or the Five Poison festival. On this day the superstition prevails that the five most dangerous reptiles, viz:—the scorpion, the snake, the centipede, the lizard and the toad are supposed to make their first annual appearance. On this occasion people drink white wine mixed with a small amount of arsenic. In order to protect a child, the character for "Love," is written with this mixture on his forehead, and a bit of the same drug is placed on his eyes, nose and ears, in the belief that the reptile will not approach this child because of the odor.

There is yet a further superstition in connection with the above festival. This superstition relates to the scholar Chung Kui. Chung Kui rightfully won the highest honor, the Chang Yuan, during the competitive examinations of the Han Ling University attended by students from all the provinces. It was the custom for the Emperor to award this honor, but although Chung Kui merited it, the Emperor failed to grant it as Chung Kui's face proved to be offensive to him. In righteous anger, Chung Kui committed suicide by cutting his own throat. The Emperor, on being informed of this act, felt conscience stricken to such an extent that he canonized the spirit of Chung Kui, by giving it power over all evil spirits, and the spirits of animals. The likeness of the unfortunate Chung Kui may be seen, in interior cities, decorating the doors of many houses on the fifth day of the fifth moon in order to threaten the approaches of the five reptiles mentioned previously.

In connection with feast-days apart from the three important festivals, it is hard to judge which is of greater prominence the wedding feast, or the birthday feast. In China, only certain birthdays are celebrated to a large degree, namely, the fiftieth or sixtieth birthdays. To a lesser extent, the tenth birthday of a child is also important. A large gathering of friends is invited to participate in the happy event. Presents from relatives and friends usually consist of material for clothing and gifts bonds issued by Banks or Department Stores.

Important Occasions

The fiftieth or sixtieth birthday is of greater importance. On this occasion, invitations are usually sent out well ahead of time, sometimes even three months before the actual date. The invitations which are sent out usually issue from the sons of the family, and the addressees are requested to present essays or poems for the occasion. On the eve of the birthday all scrolls and paintings presented by relatives of the family are displayed on the walls, together with other decorations of various descriptions. In some cases, a stage is even erected for the presentation of Chinese drama. Among the presents are also included large banners made of red silk or satin, each bearing either one of four large characters representing "Good Luck."

When a guest arrives at the front gate he is saluted by a native band of four musicians and then led to a table where he is required to sign his name. After this procedure, the guest is led to the hall, in the middle of which stands a long table with burning incense and candles to which the guest makes obeisance thrice. The host or hostess should not be seen on such occasions, especially during the whole of the forenoon, in order to save the guests the trouble of making individual greetings, which requires them to kneel down thrice before these for whom the party is in honor. The words "Kung Hsi," signifying congratulations are used by all guests.

As in all countries, a wedding feast is also of great importance. When attending a wedding feast, the guest has taken great care not to use words which are regarded as unlucky, but endeavors to the best of his ability to speak on none but the most felicitous terms. The main dish in a Chinese wedding feast, as on many other occasion is the dish composed of shark's fins. In a village wedding party, the bridegroom's uncle is usually the guest of honor, in recognition for his great assistance in ensuring that event should proceed as smoothly as planned.

The antithesis of a wedding is usually regarded as a funeral, and with a description of a funeral party we shall appropriately close this article. In funeral party the guest is expected to dress sombrely, and, if not actually cry out loud, to make some pretence at weeping. Each guest is expected to pay his respects to the dead person on the day previous to the funeral. After having made obeisance before the portrait of the deceased the guest is often given a white handkerchief with the character "long life" made of red paper pasted on it, and when the rites are over, he is led again to the reception room, where he is entertained either with tea or an elaborate funeral feast.

Most Interesting Ritual

One of the most interesting rituals is the ceremony of sending off the god of the kitchen-range to heaven which takes place annually on December 23rd by the Chinese Lunar Calendar, (generally about a month later in the Gregorian Calendar).

The image of the god is placed in an inner part of the kitchen-room and it is generally believed by the Chinese people that the god will ascend to heaven on that day to report the good and evil of the family during the past year to the Providence in heaven, and that the god in heaven will pass a judgment on the family in accordance with the report.

The ceremony which is regarded as having a most important bearing on the fortune of the Chinese people during the following year is an important function in their lives.

Although the ceremony is so greatly important in the life of Chinese people, there is no definite story regarding the history or the identity of the god. One theory, however, states that the god is named Su Ki-li, posthumous name of the Emperor Wang, who ruled China thousands of years ago, and who was credited with having created the first kitchen-range.

The ceremony is usually carried out in the following order:—

It commences with the cleaning of the kitchen and cooking place.

The image of the god is taken out of a box, after worshipping by clasping both hands and bowing, and then this image is placed on an altar which is prearranged in the kitchen room. Foodstuffs made of flour dough, of which the god is said to be fond, are then arranged before the image. Families which might have some deed of the kind that weighs on the conscience, sometimes resort to the gentle artifice of offering the god a sticky, toffee-like candy, for which the god is reputed to have an extra special weakness; the idea being to impede his powers of speech in order to render him inarticulate when he takes his place before the presence in heaven to make his report.

Worships the Image

Other things to be arranged before the god are chairs made of sticks of bamboo, decorated sedan-chairs made with sticks of Indian millet, silver coins known as "Yuan Pao" made of tin foil, (this latter being the god's traveling fee), and cakes made with flour, etc. The head of the family, after offering joss-sticks (incense) and lighting candles of red wax, then worships the image by bowing. The candles are lighted at 8 p.m., and the ceremony continues until the candles burn out.

There are two kinds of images, one being made of paper and the other of wood.

The ceremony of sending the god to heaven then commences, following the burning out of the candles.

The image made of paper, which is believed to have given protection to the family for the past year, together with other offerings such as chairs and sedanchairs, etc., are brought outside the door and burnt up.

The god is believed to ascend to heaven by the smoke, sitting on the chair.

Following the burning of these things, the image made of wood is placed in the box facing inside and the box is also placed at the usual place until the end of the year. The members of the family then live quietly awaiting the decision of the god in heaven.

The Chinese people, being afraid of the anger of the kitchenrange god, refrain from evil speaking and behavior until the end of the year. For a good instance of this, even a sympathetic family who allowed a photographer to take pictures, forced him to worship the image by bowing several times because the taking of these pictures, they believed, might raise the ire of the god.

—China Digest, Shanghai

WAR METALS OF SOUTH BOOST ARMS INDUSTRY

Supplies of Iron, Copper, Coal, Other Raw Materials Assured for Japan

On January 24, last year, following the reopening of the Imperial Diet session the committee in charge of the bill calling for the establishment of a Southern Regions Development Treasury met in conference. At the very outset of the meeting, Mr. Shuto, Director of the Fourth Section of the Cabinet Planning Board, explained the agricultural and underground resources of the Southern Regions. What he said on that occasion regarding the metal resources may be summarized as follows:

The output of iron ore in the Philippines in 1939 totaled 701,000 tons. Most of it was exported to Japan. The iron mines in that country are rich in deposits and the industry promises well for the future. In the same year, the Philippines exported 162,000 tons of chrome, of which about 54,000 tons went to the United States. Chrome deposits in that country are the greatest in the world, being estimated at 10,000,000 tons. Copper resources are comparatively scarce in the Southern Regions, but in the Philippines the deposits are estimated at 5,000,000 tons. As for manganese, Japan took over most of the 49,000 tons the Philippines exported in 1938.

In 1939, Malai produced 82,000 tons of tin. Kinta and Selangor in the western coast and Pahang and Johore in the eastern part of the peninsula are the principal districts, where the metal is obtained. A tin refinery is being operated at Shonanto. In 1939, the United States imported 56,000 tons of tin from Malai. The peninsula produced 194,000 tons of tin from Malai. The peninsula produced 194,000 tons of iron ore in the same year. Before the outbreak of the present war, Malai exported the ore principally to Japan.

Bauxite Resources

The Dutch East Indies annually produced 230,000 tons of bauxite and exported about 197,000 tons to Japan. The Bauxite resources at Bintang Island are estimated at 30,000,000 tons. As for iron deposits, Borneo has 250,000,000 tons, Celebes 700,000,000 and Sumatra 10,000,000 tons. With all these resources, the iron mining industry in former Dutch East Indies is quite promising. These regions produced about 8,000,000 tons of petroleum in 1939. The output of coal there in the same year totaled 1,780,000 tons, Sumatra producing 1,220,000 tons and Borneo 550,000 tons. Coal deposits in former Dutch East Indies are estimated at 200,000,000 tons.

In 1938, Burma produced 5,027 tons of tungsten, 6,000 tons of stannic tungsten ore and 6,500 tons of copper. The annual production of petroleum in the country is about 146,000 tons. The fact that Burma produces a large quantity of petroleum and coal of high grade, which provide motive power for industrial production, augurs well for the future of industrial activities in that country.

So much has become clear as the result of explanations given by the Japanese Government authorities, but the most important point is what Japan has acquired in the way of metal resources. In this respect we may enumerate seven items, including iron, chrome, copper, manganese, tin, aluminum and tungsten. The numerical figures on these metals, as given by the authorities, appeared in the January 25 issue of the Tokyo Mainichi. According to the Asahi of the same date, the director of the Fourth Section of the Cabinet Planning Board stated that Celebes has a considerable amount of nickel resources.

The Government is laying special emphasis on the importance of developing copper and bauxite resources in the Southern Regions. As for iron, it has decided to develop chiefly those at Hainan Island, taking into consideration the transportation facilities available. Whatever may be the case, so much may be said that the Japanese people have been infinitely relieved by the thought that Japan has acquired these natural resources. In addition, Japan can also obtain Manila hemp and rubber, special products of the Southern Regions.

What is most gratifying to Japan, apart from the consideration of natural resources, is the fact that the Anglo-American influences have been driven out once and for all from North and South China. The coal produced in North China has been exported to Japan in great quantities. Japan has also been exporting coal to China, but its quality is different from the coal it has been importing. A large proportion of imported coal is used for the production of coke and the rest for the manufacture of briquettes and carbide. The coal for making coke was produced in North China chiefly by British and American interests while anthracite coal for the manufacture of briquettes was produced chiefly in French-Indo-China.

Imported From China

A large proportion of coal produced in Japan Proper is not fit for production of coke. In 1932, about 35 per cent of the coal used in Japan for making coke was imported from North China. Recent figures in this connection are not available. Coke is essential for the production of iron, without which the promotion of national defense on a sound basis is practically impossible. From this consideration, coal as material for the production of coke has a very important significance in Japan's national defense.

The coal produced at the Penhsihu coal mine in Manchoukuo, which is regarded as the best for making coke, is mixed with coal produced in the eastern section of the Fushun coal mine for production of coke as fuel for the Anshan Steel Works. But Japan's iron industry has been developing and expanding indefinitely and it cannot afford to depend solely upon the Penhsihu coal field which is not particularly extensive. A section of the Mitien coal field in the same country produces excellent coal for coke, but the difficulty is that the mine is situated at a point far from the port, from which the fuel may be shipped to Japan.

From such considerations, the coal for coke produced in North China is of vital importance to Japan. But the coal resources in China are concentrated to a large measure in North China, and the Kailan coal mine, the greatest of all in North China, had been operated by British interests up to the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia. The offices of this mine are situated near the Tangshan railway station between Tientsin and Shanhaikan, which is easily reached by a train running between Fengtien, Manchoukuo and Peking, North China. The name of the company is the Kailan Mining Administration with its head office at Tientsin. Peru and China have some interests in it, but it was the British who had controlling power.

This coal mine is the most important of all in China when we realize the fact that it produced 61.4 per cent of the total coal output in North China which constitutes 37.7 per cent of the total output of entire China. This means that the Kailan coal mine alone produced 23.1 per cent of China's coal output. The rate of output by this mine must have risen to a much higher level since the outbreak of the present war.

(To Be Concluded)

SOVIET INFANTRY LOSES HEAVILY IN SILESIA WAR

40-50 Per Cent of Effectives Cut Down—Stalin Scouring Country for Replacements

Domei

BERLIN, February 16.—The Soviet infantry forces fighting in lower Silesia, west of the Oder River have lost an average of 40 to 50 per cent of their effectives and Marshal Stalin is now combing entire Russia for troops, it was revealed recently by Soviet soldiers of the 147th Soviet rifle division who were taken prisoner at Weschau west of Freystadt.

According to the prisoners, new forces have been thrown into the battle to replace the high losses. The new 111th rifle division now established west of the Oder was recruited from Siberia, they revealed.

They said that Marshal Stalin is combing entire Russia to fill the ranks on the front and the war industries. All male inhabitants between 16 and 55 are being drafted into the army and men between 55 and 65 into the armament industries. Those over 65 are put to agricultural labor. Boys of 14 are said to be working in the armament industries.

Soviets Using New Tank

Domei

BERLIN, February 16.—The Soviets are using new rakish looking tanks called the "Chthsuka" or "Pike" and mounting a 120-millimeter gun in the battles in lower Silesia, according to frontline reports.

According to a German reconnaissance plane which just returned from the Sagan-Naumburg sector west of the Bober, innumerable Soviet tanks and motor vehicles are burning on the fields and highways in the frontier district of lower Silesia.

Among the burning Soviet tanks were a number of new "Chthsuka" type. This name meaning the "Pike" was chosen in view of its low turret construction which resembled the head of a prey pike.

The Pike tank is an improved T-34 type tank with stronger armor and mounting a 120-millimeter gun. It is claimed to be the best tank in the Red Army and even better than the Josef Stalin model. The burning Pikes on the Silesian battlefield, however, show that even these improved tanks are not invincible against the German "Panzerfaust."

Captured Soviet tank officers described the German Panzerfaust as a "nasty weapon" and tanks hit by them are usually completely destroyed and the crew burned to death.

Facts Worth Noting

British Army and Naval Commanders in Asia

Field Marshal Viscount Archibald Wavell—Viceroy of India
Gen. Claude Auchinleck—C-in-C in India
Gen. Vernon Hutton—Com. in India
Gen. Sir Walter Lentaigne—Same
Gen. Sir George Gifford—Com. in S.E. Asia
Lt. Gen. W. J. Slim—Same
Lt. Gen. Wilfrid Lindsell—Chief of Military Administration in India
Lt. Gen. K. L. Morris—Chief of Staff in India
Air Marshal Sir Keith Park—C-in-C of Air Force in S.E. Asia
Air Vice-Marshal Thomas M. Williams—Com. in S.E. Asia
Air Marshal Sir Richard Pierce—Com. in India
Air Marshal A. G. R. Garrod—Vice-Commander in India
Air Vice-Marshal C. E. Hamedi—C-in-C of Air Force in W. Asia
Adm. Lord Louis Mountbatten—C-in-C in S.E. Asia
Adm. Sir Bruce Fraser—C-in-C of Pacific Fleet
Adm. Arthur J. Power—C-in-C of Eastern Fleet
Vice-Adm. C. S. Daniel—Administrator of Pacific Fleet
Vice-Adm. Edward Wetherall—Commander at Ceylon

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China
Canton, Chefoo, Hankow, [illegible] chow, Hoihow, Hongkong, Kowloon, Kinhwa, Macao, Nanking, Ningpo, Peking (Tojyo & [illegible]), Pengpu, Shanghai, [illegible], Shihweiyao, Tientsin ([illegible] Gai & 2nd St. & Miyajima), [illegible] nan, Tsingtao.

French Indo-China
Haiphong, Hanoi, Saigon.

Thailand
Alor-Star, Bangkok, [illegible], Kuala-Trengganu.

Burma
Bassein, Lashio, Mandalay, [illegible] myo, Mergui, Moulmein, Myingyan, Prome, Rangoon, [illegible], Taunggyi, Tavoy.

Malai
Ipoh, Johore-Bharu, [illegible] sar, Kuala-Lipis, Kuala-Lumpur, Kuantan, Malacca, Penang, Seremban, Shonan, [illegible] (Shonan), Taiping.

Sumatra
Bencoolen, Bukit-Tinggi, [illegible], Kota-Raja, [illegible], [illegible], Padang, Pakanbaroe, Palembang, Pangkal-Pinang, [illegible], Siboiga, Telok-Betong.

Djawa
Bandoeng, [illegible], Djakarta (Stationsplein & [illegible] wijk) Djember, Djogjakarta, [illegible] diri, Madioen, Magelang, [illegible], Pamekasan, Pekalongan, [illegible] Kerto, Semarang, Serang, [illegible] karta, Soerabaya, Tjirebon.

Borneo
Api, Burnet, Kuala-Belait, [illegible], Kudat, Miri, Sandakan, [illegible], Tawao.

The Philippines
Manila.

Europe & South America
Berlin, Hamburg, [illegible]

Temporarily Closed
(Alexandria, Bombay, [illegible], Honolulu, [illegible], London, [illegible] Angeles, New York, [illegible], [illegible] Francisco, Seattle, Sydney).

Every Description of Banking Business Transacted

JAPAN'S ECONOMIC STAND TOWARD CHINA REVIEWED

Shigemitsu's Policy Revealed in Diet Featured by All Local Press in Editorials

The paramount importance of Japan's new economic policy toward China as enunciated by Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu in the Imperial Diet recently was featured by the principal dailies of Tokyo in their editorial comments during the week ending February 14.

Other major topics of comments were: the "Big Three" Conference, the German situation, and the problem of strengthening Japan's war structure.

Taking up the problem of Chinese economy in connection with the new economic policy of Japan toward China, the Asahi points out the importance of dealing with inflation in that country for the economic welfare of the Chinese and in maintaining her economic order as well as regards her contribution toward the strengthening of Japan's war strength. While admitting that inflation to a certain degree is unavoidable under wartime conditions, the paper contends that proper steps can be and should be taken to check such an economic tendency. The journal then refers to political steps that China should take in respect to this problem and says:

"Vigorous measures should be taken in the field of politics in coping with the problems of inflation. The purification of Government circles and the establishment of moral politics are essential for reforming the social environments and economic conditions of China, for high prices have originated largely from political corruptions and unhealthy economic conditions. Thus, reforms in political circles and economic conditions are essential in the efficient execution of the proposed new economic policy of this country toward China."

China's Contributions Imperative

The Mainichi observes that China's speedy contribution to Japan's war strength has become all the more imperative because of the growing intensity of the fighting on Luzon Island, since the American advance over the Philippines is liable to cut the line of communications between Japan and the Southern Regions. The paper observes that there are two main concrete problems for the new economic policy, namely, to bring about the self-supply of materials for the Japanese Forces in China and the maintenance of China's transportation facilities for extending to Japan all necessary materials required for the prosecution of the war.

After describing Chinese economy as being complicated and in a condition of desolation, the journal continues: "Since our economy in China had to depend on cities and railways, our economic policies had to be traditionally based on currency and consumption economy. But in view of the existing changed conditions in that country, we should give up this stress on consumption economy in maintaining the prices of commodities, and we should directly unite the self-supply of materials needed by our Army in China and the supply of materials to Japan with the production at spot. This is the only effective way of carrying out our proposed new economic policy toward China. And the unification of our organs at spot is considered as a matter of extreme urgency. The highest object of our policy is to bring about the speedy strengthening of our war power through the contribution by Chinese economy."

The Yomiuri-Hochi points out that the main objects of Japan's new economic policy consist in China's contribution to the augmentation of Japan's fighting power and the betterment of the living conditions of the Chinese people. The journal observes that the realization of these objectives will be faced by extreme difficulties under the present circumstances in China, and fears that, unless proper steps be taken, these two objects may contradict each other.

The journal is convinced that the essence of Japan's new economic policy consists in assisting the Nanking Government to attain its economic objectives by overcoming this difficulty. The paper points out the concrete problems of the new economic program such as the unification of Japanese organs on the spot, the rationalization of material supply, the consolidation of transportation power, protection for Chinese currency and display of initiative by the Chinese. The paper warns against shortsighted negative attitude and contends that the new economic policy should be carried out with an eye to the postwar problems in China.

The Nippon Sangyo Keizai stresses on Chinese psychology as a great economic factor in the execution of the new China policy and heartily endorses the Government's decision to adopt the new economic policy toward China "in view of the very nature of the various problems which that country has faced hitherto." The journal concludes by saying: "In view of the fact that all the difficult problems of economic control in China have been traced to the peculiar psychology of the Chinese, it is imperative that those who are in charge of the operation of the new economic policy should be prepared to take this psychological factor into their proper consideration and they should also endeavor to stabilize the Chinese mentality."

Strong German Spirit

Regarding the latest conditions in Germany, the Mainichi observes the gallant defense put up not only by the citizens of Berlin but also by the entire people of Germany against their invaders and this comes from their realization of what will be their fate should their enemy win the war, because the German authorities have told them about all the plans the enemy has been making regarding the disposal of Germany. The paper recalls the treachery which was handed to the Germans by their enemy at the close of the First World War and concludes by saying that the intimidations by the Crimea Conference regarding the occupation of Germany and other propaganda plots will not be able to shake the German conviction for their final victory.

The Yomiuri-Hochi also takes up the German situation and opines that it was fated that Germany had to face her enemy on both flanks, saying that such was the task imposed upon the German race since the foundation of their nation, and that they gained their present power, will and intelligence out of this national destiny. The paper observes that the present war which Germany is facing is the war of three ideas in addition to the war among the three races of the Germans, Slavs and the Anglo-Saxons. "The war is not only testing the racial power of the German race," the journal concludes, "but the truth of their ideas which runs through their race is being also tested. We put trust on the German race in face of their present stupendous crisis, because we are convinced that the truth of their racial ideas is living among the 90 million people of Germany who are determined to uphold their glory and independence."

The Asahi takes up the joint communique issued by the Crimea Conference among the heads of the three major anti-Axis nations. The journal begins by observing the irony that both President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill, both of whom proposed the conference, were compelled to travel all the way to Soviet territory in order to attend the meeting over a great distance. The paper attaches importance to the communique as an official document which contains the military and political stratagems of the anti-Axis nations during the last stage of the present European War.

The journal points out the following two outstanding facts about the conference: the three nations met in a conference in order to avoid their fatal disharmony in their common war front and despite their danger of disharmony they managed to attain an agreement regarding their main military and political stratagems at the end of the meeting.

The journal stresses that the three nations succeeded in maintaining a temporary balance of power in Europe among themselves as well as their common war efforts through two factors; namely, the political advance of the Soviet Union and the retreat of Britain as a declining power.

Compromising Differences

The joint communique is considered by the paper as an evidence of the common war front assumed by these three anti-Axis nations, for the war situation has been too severe to regard the communique as merely an anti-German propaganda. The journal urges that the readers should remember that these nations have shown their determination to end the current world war in their victory by compromising over their political differences even if it is for a temporary expediency.

The paper takes up the significance of the absence of any mention of Japan in the communique. "During the complicated discussions at the conference was the great question of how to develop the Anglo-Americans' war with Japan into a common war for all the anti-Axis nations. And it is highly significant that the proposed United Nations World Security Conference to be held in San Francisco on April 25 is calculated to realize such a scheming on the part of the Anglo-American enemy," the paper concludes.

BURMESE ARMY BOLSTERED

Women's Corps Formed to Boost National Defense System

Domei

RANGOON, February 17.—The Burmese National Defense Army, hope of the 16,000,000 people of independent Burma, is putting itself to intensive training with the idea of rendering a good account of itself when it meets the haughty British army.

The Burmese military authorities have organized a women's corps to work with the National Army, as part of a plan to strengthen the army. All unmarried Burmese women from the ages of 18 to 30 are eligible for enrolment in the corps. To date, several hundred applications for enrolment have already been received by the authorities concerned.

Japanese Thought and Character

Sense of Suitability

By SHUNKICHI AKIMOTO
Of The Nippon Times Staff

Of the all-pervasive influence which the regular recurrence of the four seasons exerts on Japanese life and thought the best illustration is seen in the native costume. Easy and comfortable to the wearer, graceful and dignified to the outside view, the kimono has come in recent years to be thought unpractical, and even taboo in the official and business quarters of the capital. Besides its floppy nature, it is subject to too many variations of fashion according to the four seasons. Each article of dress has an old, deep-ingrained tradition chiefly connected with seasonal ideas. To be an appropriately-dressed, not to say well-dressed, person in Japan one must possess enormous quantities of clothing, enough perhaps to fill a department store.

The Japanese costume is broadly classified under the four seasons, as dictated of course by changes in the climate. It consists of four or five principal items. First, the garment proper called kimono in the narrow sense, often consisting of two in winter, uwagi and shitagi (upper and lower); sometimes "dogi" a kind of under-vest; then juban or shirt with its ornamental edging and sleeves; obi or narrow sash for men; for ceremonial occasions hakama or broad trousers worn over the lower half of kimono; finally haori, corresponding to the frockcoat or the morning coat. Each one of these items forms a category of its own, subject to its own fashions regarding the quality of cloth, color and design, even cut and shape sometimes. In selecting or fashioning each of these articles a great deal of judgement and taste are required so as to produce an appropriate effect on the whole suit.

To give an example, the young dandy in middle Meiji was wont to wear a long haori, coming almost within a few inches of the skirt of the kimono, and it bore five family crests, three on the back and two in front, and the crest was large, about two inches across. His obi was of white crepe silk, voluminous and heavy, worn broadly round the waist. As the years passed the haori grew shorter, and its crest smaller, now about one inch in diameter, dyed rather than embroidered, while his obi is no longer white but in sober color, i.e., grey, brown or black, and of lighter and more refined silk than formerly. If a man is seen today in long haori and white crepe obi, he will be regarded as a cranky rebel, if not crazy, best fit for a theatrical character figuring in a mid-Meiji drama. Only two items of dress for men have been mentioned, and you may imagine the great complexity of modes and fashions regulating Japanese costumes from season to season, year to year.

Women's Dress

As for women's dress we have no space to dwell at length, but for a specimen we will tackle only one article, namely obi. There are five or six varieties of obi which every respectable woman is expected to wear. The first one is worn over juban to keep it in place, called datemaki, a thin braided sash; the next one, a slender belt, worn over kimono to keep it from dangling down, called "shitaobi." Over this comes the obi proper, long, wide, heavy, elaborately-woven and designed, forming the chief article of female attire. To keep this great obi from slipping down, especially at the back where it ends or culminates in a great ornamental knot, another obi or "obi-age" (obi-lifter) is worn, the ends of which are tied in front and slipped underneath the obi. Now comes the last of obi, chiefly ornamental, mounted in front with a stopper forming a broach, usually of precious metal or jewelry, gold or platinum, coral, jade, crystal, ruby, diamond, etc. Each of these half a dozen obi, some of them never seen except by the wearer, has its own law of fashion, ers, because it, too, has its "age" public taste. No women at all kimono-minded will think of sharing even shitaobi with their elders or youngers, because it, too, has its "age" as well as season, red being permissible for girls in their twenties, gray fit for those in their forties, etc.

Hence the growing popularity of European costume for both sexes. But even into the domain of "foreign" costumes the Japanese are apt to infuse the spirit of nice discrimination as dictated by their sense of the seasons. You must have noticed men and women holding regular conferences at the tie stand of department stores as to the suitability of this or that specimen for a given subject of particular age, occupation, height, complexion, rank, station, etc., and from the viewpoint of the season, weather and social occasion as if the very honor and reputation of men depended on their ties. The idea that a tie, if it is good for one season may be good for another, or that which is suitable for one man may be suitable also for another, is not commonly accepted in this country.

In Art and Literature

The same meticulous season-sense is most artistically displayed in Japanese landscape painting. If you, visiting a new city or a place famous for scenic beauty, buy a pack of picture postcards, you are pretty sure to find them classified under the four seasons. In Kyoto, for example, you will most likely have spring represented by the Gion temple decked in cherry blossoms, summer by a "breezy" scene on the Kamo river with pretty Maiko in the foreground, autumn by the crimson foliage of Arashiyama and winter by the snow-clad Ginkakuji, reminiscent of Shogun Yoshimasa, the Japanese Lorenzo de Medici. In Tokyo the four seasons may be thus classified; the cherry of Uyeno for spring, fireworks on the Sumida for summer, the maples of Shiba park for autumn, the snow-scape of Marunouchi for winter. Not only the four seasons of the year but the four "seasons" of the day must be symbolized, as in this wise: the cherry-decked park stands for "broad daylight," in spring; the golden hill-side basks in the half-tone twilight of "autumnal evening"; flashing fireworks of course signify "summer night"; lastly, snow-covered Miyakezaka can only mean "winter morning" with its unforgetable memory of the death of Lord Ii.

We are pursued by this seasonal ideology into the realm of drama and fiction. In the former is affords an infinite scope for invention and improvisation in "production" and in scenery furnishing, and in the latter for the descriptive powers of authors. A typical example may be seen in the Forty-Seven Ronin. The earlier scene of court affray in which Hangan inflicts cuts on Morono and the one following in which the poor Hangan commits harakiri, are both laid in spring moontide; the scene of revelry in which Yuranosuke, Chief of Ronin, plays the profligate in the gay atmosphere of a Kyoto tea house is unmistakably summer night; the sombre aspects of Act Five and Six in which three characters meet with tragic death are decidedly autumnal with their associations of hunting, mountain boars, moon and shower; and the drama culminates in the grand finale near Ryogoku bridge where the snow of a beautiful winter morning is reddened with the blood of the enemy spilt in vengeance.

This season-sense is, if possible, more intensively maintained in Japanese poetry, especially in tanka (31 syllable verse) and haiku (17 syllable verse) than even in drama and painting. There is hardly a verse but has some hint of a particular season to which it "belong" either by direct allusion or indirect suggestion. Nearly all the birds, plants, and even some of the commonest utensils are associated with one another of the seasons, as the fan is with summer and deer with autumn, etc., and the rule is at times conventionalized, almost to a ridiculous point, but the slightest deviation from it is regarded as an unpardonable sin as when a dandy who, otherwise perfectly got up, wears a straw hat in the middle of winter. In Western art and literature, we know, the sense of season is not wholly lacking, but they surely do not so constantly talk about spring epics, summer lyrics, autumn fields, winter mountains as we do in Japan. Life in Japan is a sort of cinematograph picture of the changing mood and scenery of the four seasons. In spring we not only wear spring clothes, but eat spring food, play spring games, sit in a spring room with furniture and decorations patterned on or arranged in spring fashion, tell spring stories, see spring dramas, and, as it were, read spring books and think spring thought. And so also in the other seasons.

Doctrine of Niai

So far the influence of the four seasons on Japanese life and thought in its aesthetic aspect has been briefly noted. It now remains to consider its moral influence. The Japanese sense of right and wrong is derived not so much from a philosophic study of moral doctrines as from the sense of fitness or appropriateness acquired by close observation of the laws of nature or of the natural phenomena as reflected in the Japanese conscience. It is expressed by the one word of "becomingness." It may seem a precarious guide to ethical conduct, but it can not be more so than any of the so-called rationally or philosophically conceived moral doctrines can be. Is there in this world such a thing as a perfectly natural, a definite, or a last philosophy of right and wrong? What is thought right only today or in one village but is not so tomorrow or in the next village, cannot be called real right. Therefore a man or a state, to be always right, must needs be so by its own standard, varying from day to day according to social and political as well as climatic circumstances, so to speak. Suitability is always a subtle and fugitive quality to catch especially for the untrained or unregenerate mind. None the less it is a tangible reality to every conscientious or cultivated mind.

If you are out to buy a hat, you will naturally look for one that will suit you best. Though difficult to hit upon the right one, that is no proof that a "best" hat for you does not exist, if only you know how and where to look for it. You may indeed not have found it or merely put up with a second best, and in that case you know it. So we will know what it means when we are said to be acting in a manner which becomes us. Even a little boy will understand, if he is normal in body and mind, when you bid him be like a boy, as the adult will understand what it is meant to act "like a man." For when common people are exhorted to obey their "superiors," or governors as a code of behavior suitable to them, it is tacitly understood that the latter are also to act in a manner that best becomes them—to be just, generous, proof against bribery, etc.

This idea of becomingness is constantly expressed in common parlance by the word "niai," or "rashiki." Hard to define always, none the less it is unmistakable; difficult to apply in a given circumstance, it is none the less unmistakable when it is acted on or violated. The word is most frequently on the lips of matchmakers or those seeking marriage for themselves. Where all other standards of comparison are thought inadequate that of suitability is deemed the best and wisest, to secure a "good match," and indeed where marriage has proved a failure, it will always be discovered to be due to lack of suitability on either side.

There is a danger always of this code of "niai" or "rashiki" degenerating into a hypocritical method of substituting reality with symbol, matter with manner, truth with sophistry. Indeed we have many examples, classic and living, of "rashiki" characters who are not what they seem: scribes and Pharisees in the time of Christ, Spanish "grandees" in the 17th century, the "English gentlemen" or "democratic Americans" of the 20th century. In this country, however, we know that the people are so keenly alive to the sense of niai, as they are to season-sense, that it is extremely difficult for shams and charlatans to maintain for long their disguise or false pretensions.

It seems to us very probable that a similar criterion of moral action obtained in ancient Greece though it was not perhaps called by the same term. Many a moral historian, while admiring their superb aesthetic faculties and their taste, condemns their "amorality," even "immorality," citing as evidence their lack of chivalry toward women, their inhuman slave system, their cruel treatment of war prisoners, etc. Such criticism is based on the critic's own moral or rather moralizing notions, too out of focus to show the picture in right perspective. The Greeks had a measure of moral values different from that of modern moralists, but, like that of the Japanese, was subject not so much to the factitious or dogmatic ideas that must vary from day to day or from frontier to frontier, as to the natural and permanent law of suitability which one with an inward moral sense can not fail to see. To say, therefore, that the Greeks had a strong sense of the beautiful but no moral sense is to betray a mixture of thought through muddled use of words. It will be more correct to say that to them aestheticism was all in all, or that "to be beautiful is per se to be good."

In like manner we may claim our moral code is not identical in kind to that commonly conceived by those moralists whose minds are too forensic to view human psychology in its fundamental or natural implications. So it may be characterized as either "moralistic" nor even "aesthetical"; it is an integral part of the broad and subtle sense of suitability as before stated.

In this our age, so much internationalized in thought or cosmopolitanized in custom, we have several codes of law to respect, if we are to dwell in harmony with one another: the international law, the national legislature, the local laws framed in small divisions of territory; and various vocational laws, so to speak, regulating conduct in diverse spheres of life. But above all there is one universal law by which all are willy-nilly bound though it has no definite code of articles, and indeed it will be too subtle to be written down in black and white. That is the law dictated by the sense of suitability in all countries and under all circumstances. A sin of omission or commission perpetrated against it will be like a breach of taste in manners or dress as in the examples already cited, spoil the whole character of conduct, be it ever so irreproachable in all other respects. In a word, it is the fundamental law of human nature, and cannot be violated, even in fulfilment of other laws, without due penalty being exacted in the long run. We ought to be grateful to providence for this particular gift of nature—sense of suitability—forming the universal key to Japanese life in its most characteristic form.

Japan Press Body Approved

Official sanction on the establishment of the Nippon Shimbun Kosha (Japan Press Corporation) in place of the Japan Press Association which was dissolved some time ago was given under date of February 15. The new body will function a common organ for Japan's newspaper industry under Government supervision.

NORTH CHINA INCREASES WAR MATERIAL OUTPUT

Bigger Shipments Made to Japan; Steel Industry Makes Remarkable Progress

North China, one of the most important arsenals of natural resources in Greater East Asia, is contributing largely toward Japan's war efforts, according to Domei.

Among the raw materials found in this area are coal, iron, alumina, shale, and salt. Plans are underway to speed up rail and marine transportation, thus adding to the significance of North China as the arsenal of natural resources in Greater East Asia.

A survey reveals that 80 per cent of the total coal deposits of China, totaling many hundred million tons, is found in this area. Three big mines are located in the Tatung, Kailan, and Chunghsing areas, an outstanding feature of those mines being that there is hardly any gas or water within the coal pits. Since the ground is firm, it is hardly necessary to use timber for shafts, and the coal, which is available in super-abundance in these mines, is of the best quality for manufacturing iron.

Along with the broad increase of production, shipments to Japan are sharply on the up-grade, those during the recent five months surpassing the first half of the current year by 80 per cent. Vast iron ore deposits are found in these areas and the quality is of the very best. Endowed with an enormous supply of these essential materials, the steel industry is being developed at a remarkably swift pace in North China.

Alumina shale is found in all coal fields of North China. At the Kailan coal mine in eastern Hopeh Province, there is available 8,000,000 tons of alumina shale with the content of more than 60 per cent aluminum, and 17,000,000 tons with aluminum content from 50 to 60 per cent. In addition, it is estimated that there are several hundred million tons of alumina shale deposits both open and underground, at a coal mine in Shantung Province. Aluminum content of alumina shale obtained at this particular coal mine ranges from 75 to 80 per cent. This alumina shale is of a very good quality, containing very little iron and with 12 per cent silicic acid of a very good quality. At present only open mines are operating, but production now reaches sizable proportions. In recent months, the output showed a 40 per cent increase over the monthly production goal.

In the increased production of salt, abandoned salt fields have been restored and those already in operation improved, while new salt fields have been opened up. It is noteworthy that more than 215,000 hectares of new salt fields have been developed where mechanized means of pumping seawater and other scientific methods have been adopted. Consequently, exportation of salt to Japan has steadily been increasing.

In transporting these products from North China to Japan, epochal measures have been formulated to use land routes. Index number for the volume of freight by land transportation system in North China, taking 1939 as 100, rose to 224 in 1942 and 225 in 1943, and the figure is ascending higher this year. It is recalled that the ratio for land transportation in 1942 was 40 and 60 for marine transportation, whereas figures reversed last year to 70 for land and 30 for marine transport.

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SHOICHI KAWAMURA

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The Trend of Domestic Politics

It has been apparent for some weeks that the nation has recently been stirring with unusual political activity. Noticeable have been such events as the entrance into the Cabinet on December 19 last of Admiral Seizo Kobayashi, president of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association; the resignation in early January of Lieutenant General Yoshitsugu Tatekawa from the presidency of the Manhood Corps of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association, accompanied by a spirited exchange of views between the central headquarters and the various local chapters of this organization; the presentation to Prime Minister Koiso on February 6 of a statement by a group of prominent citizens urging a ten-point program of Government action; and the replacement on February 10 of the Chief Cabinet Secretary by a personage of no less a rank than State Minister Hisatada Hirose. At the same time there has been persistent talk of a projected reorganization of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association, the Imperial Rule Assistance Association, and the Manhood Corps of the latter Association, or the merger of all three into a single organization, and likewise rumors of the possible emergence of a new political party or parties. It has been obvious also that the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association has for some time been anxious to revitalize, extend, and make more flexible the scope of its activities.

These events and tendencies do not all necessarily have any direct connection with each other, but coming at a time when there has developed a fervent desire on the part of all sections of the public to support the Government more actively than ever in the prosecution of the war, they may be regarded as manifestations of the same general tendency toward a more powerful propulsion of the nation's political life. They constitute a welcome evidence of the resurgent vigor and vitality which has appeared in the general public's sense of political responsibility, and indicate a further strengthening of the national political structure which will raise the nation's morale and fighting power to new heights.

The occurrence of these developments is a logical consequence of the policies of the Koiso Cabinet and in a sense means that one of the main objectives it set out to attain is steadily being approached. In the early days of the present war when the nation had to be transformed with all possible speed from a peacetime basis to a total war structure, it was inevitable and essential that the Government take the lead in directing this process. The divergent currents of the variegated civilian life had to be channelized into the single direction of waging the war, and to do this effectively and quickly the Government perhaps had to make use of authoritarian means. To carry out this necessary concentration of all political and civic activities into a single direction, the Tojo Cabinet pushed the completion of the so-called "New Structure" which had been projected previously by Prince Konoye during his premiership in anticipation of just such a contingency. This "New Structure" embraced the mobilization of all political and civic activities within the framework of the Imperial Rule Assistance movement consisting of the triple branches of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association, the Manhood Corps of this Association, and the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association.

In carrying out the completion of this "New Structure" the Tojo Cabinet successfully performed a very necessary task. But in the very nature of things, the initiative in the process had to be taken by the Government, and the general public, staunchly as it supported the Government, passively followed the Government's direction.

But more recently the underlying situation has greatly changed. With the nation having completed its transformation to a full war footing, there existed no longer a need for the Government to maintain such a firm hand at the reins. With the entire population having come to be possessed of a fervent desire to exert their utmost in the prosecution of the war, there remained no further need for any special effort to channelize the direction of the people's activities. In fact, to provide opportunity for greater free expression of the general public's sentiments, for a more flexible exercise of their spontaneous activities, for a more unrestricted display of their independent initiative, appeared more likely in this new stage of developments to result in greater national power.

Consequently, when the Koiso Cabinet came into office last summer, it announced as one of its primary aims the encouragement of a spontaneous popular movement and the association of the general public in full and intimate partnership with the Government in bearing the responsibilities of pushing the war. The personnel of the Cabinet itself was selected to facilitate this aim; the relaxation of the wartime censorship regulations was designed for the same purpose; and in every way the Government afforded opportunity for the public to exercise its own initiative in collaborating with the Government in the common national effort. This policy was specifically reiterated and reemphasized by Prime Minister Koiso at the beginning of this year in connection with the sessions of the 86th Imperial Diet.

The recent evidence of marked political activity throughout the nation, therefore, are the consequence of this new policy. The "New Structure" of the Konoye and Tojo periods is giving way to a still newer "New Structure" in keeping with the changed character of the times. It means that the vigor and vitality of the nation's political life is being recharged to strengthen further the national structure. It demonstrates the unlimited capacity of the Japanese nation to renew perennially its political strength to meet ever successfully the needs of any new situation.

A Year Ago Today
February 19, 1944

An anti-Axis cruiser was sunk instantaneously in Gaeta Bay off the coast of western Italy, it was announced by the German military authorities.

* * *

The United States army began preparations to withdraw over 100,000 soldier-students from colleges and universities by April 1 in order to meet the shortage of 200,000 men in the required army inductions, according to a report from Washington.

* * *

A formation of 10-odd small enemy planes attempted a raid on our positions on Yaluit Island in the Marshall Group. Promptly counterattacking them, our Garrison Forces stationed there shot down two of them and repulsed all the other invaders. The damage on the Japanese side was very slight.

* * *

Realistic sham battles were fought by the Imperial Forces at Singradja since dawn in commemoration of the Japanese Forces' landing on Bali Island two years ago today.

* * *

The casualties of the American navy, Marine Corps, and coastal defense units since the outbreak of the war were given by the United States Navy Department as 39,473, according to a Washington dispatch. The figure is distributed as follows: 16,343 killed, 9,308 wounded, 9,404 missing and 4,418 taken prisoner.

BALBOA

Turbulent Career Opens Modern Chapter of Pacific History

By KLAUS MEHNERT
(From the XXth Century, Shanghai)

V

The business of carrying the timber across the mountains to the upper reaches of a river flowing into the Bay of Panama was a tremendous one. Balboa's patience and endurance were sorely tested. Hundreds of natives perished as a result of the heavy work. A lot of timber got lost in the transportation; part of it was made useless by insects; another part was swept away by the river during a flood. Added to this there were diseases, stifling heat, lack of provisions—in truth, the first fleet built by white men on the shores of the Pacific was born in agony. But in the end Balboa's iron will triumphed. The first Spanish ships sailed down the river into the blue Pacific. On the Pearl Islands, Balboa established his headquarters for his future expeditions. The rest of his men followed, more ships were built, and the whole of the Pacific coast of America, with the gold of Peru and the pearls of California, was waiting to be discovered. Balboa seemed to be standing on the threshold of his greatest deeds.

During the years in which Balboa struggled first with Pedrarias and then with the Cordilleras, certain incidents had taken place in Spain which were to affect the further course of events. King Ferdinand had died in 1516. His grandson and successor Charles received more and more complaints against Pedrarias, chiefly over the revolting cruelty of his officers toward the natives, until the King decided to replace Pedrarias by the Governor of the Canary Islands. Although this appointment did not become official until the spring of 1519, rumors of the imminent change of governors reached the ears of Balboa on the Pearl Islands at the very time when he was making preparations for his first long Pacific voyage, which might possibly have taken him to Peru.

Balboa was in a dilemma. On the one hand, he had long overstepped the time granted him by Pedrarias for his discoveries, thus incurring the latter's displeasure. On the other hand, his future under a new governor was very uncertain. Since he was determined not to be deterred from his voyage of discovery by anything, he figured out a plan by which he hoped to provide against both possibilities. He sent some of his followers to Acla to obtain information. Should they find that Pedrarias was still Governor, Balboa planned to carry out his South Sea voyage in spite of his time having expired, as he thought he could count on the subsequent indulgence of his father-in-law. Should Pedrarias, however, have been deposed, the messengers were to return with the trumped-up news that Balboa had been appointed Governor of Tierra Firme. In that case, his men would not hesitate to accompany him on his great voyage. And once he had returned from his expedition with gold and new discoveries, he hoped that—as in the case of his first discovery of the South Sea—his success would speak for him again and cause his disobedience to be forgotten. But things turned out quite differently.

Pedrarias nurtured a growing suspicion against his son-in-law, as he had heard rumors about an impending mutiny and had intercepted a letter in which one of Balboa's friends advised him to undertake his South Sea voyage without bothering about Pedrarias. The men sent to Acla were arrested. The conspiracy came to light. The Governor, who himself hastened to Acla, wrote Balboa a letter ordering him to come there too. Balboa obeyed, perhaps because he was afraid that an open breach with the highest representative of the King in the Tierra Firme would deter his own men from further connections with him and from the voyage to the South Sea; he may also have hoped to be able to placate his father-in-law. On his way across the isthmus he met with a detachment led by Pizarro, who arrested him in the name of Pedrarias and took him back to Acla as a prisoner. On January 12, 1519, the legal investigation of Balboa's case was concluded. Upon the judge's question whether the case should be referred to Spain, Pedrarias replied in the negative. Thereupon judgment was pronounced: for high treason, Balboa and four of his conspirators were to be beheaded. A few days later, the sentence was carried out on the plaza of Acla.

The fact that Balboa was snatched from the midst of his historical mission had farreaching consequences. Had he remained alive and in his position of Adelantado of the South Sea, he would probably have soon found the route to Peru. The history of the Pacific coast of South America might have taken a different course under him from under Pizarro. But just as he once deprived Nicuesa of the glory of discovering the Pacific, so was he now deprived by Pedrarias and Pizarro of the chance of discovering Peru. But even without Peru, Balboa is assured of his immortality. Pedrarias's behavior toward him is understandable both from a psychological as well as a legal point of view, but this does not make the figure of this suspicious, bitter old man any more attractive. In the opinion of Bancroft, the American historian, the two rivals were like the radiant Balder and sinister Loki of ancient myths.

(End)

THE UNITED NATIONS MONETARY AGREEMENT

President Roosevelt has been inaugurated for his fourth term and the United States Congress has set out on its business of the seventy-ninth session. The Administration, given its new tenure of life, and the Legislature, reshuffled by the election of last November, are confronted with various measures designed to "win the peace" as well as those directly connected with the execution of war. Among the former, the "United Nations Monetary Agreement," the outcome of the Bretton Woods Conference held last July, will be one which will figure most prominently.

The Sekai Keizai Chosakai—Institute of World Economy in Tokyo has given study to this Agreement from various angles in view of the far-reaching effect which it will carry, when actually put in operation, in the post-war world economic situation. The following article, which is the fruit of their study, was prepared specially for The Nippon Times.—Editor.

VI

Now, let us analyse the plan.

1. The purpose of the plan is, in short, to maintain high levels of employment and income through the expansion of trade. To this end, it is proposed to promote international monetary cooperation, to promote exchange stability and, by supplying funds where they are needed, to shorten periods and lessen the degree of disequilibrium in the international balance of payments of member countries.

The Fund is to be set up as a permanent institution through which to advance the end in view, and it is planned to effect the settlement of current transactions among the member countries through a multilateral system of payments established with the Fund as the center.

2. The Fund is to be operated as follows:

(a) Each member country is allotted a quota, 25 per cent of which or 10 per cent of the member's net official holdings of gold, whichever smaller, is to be subscribed in gold, the remainder being subscribed in its currency.

(b) A member can buy another member's currency from the Fund in exchange for its own currency, provided the amount does not exceed 25 per cent of the quota in a year or 200 per cent of the quota altogether.

(c) When a member makes use of the Fund's resources, its object and the member's conditions must conform with the Fund's stipulations.

(d) The Fund is entitled to purchase gold from a member. A member can repurchase from the Fund the currency in excess of its quota in exchange for gold.

(e) In purchasing currency or gold, a member must pay the stipulated charge to the Fund. The Fund levies a charge on the outstanding debit balance in excess of its quota, and all charges must be paid in gold as a matter of principle.

(f) The funds required for meeting capital transfer are not supplied. In this particular case, the member concerned may be requested to exercise exchange control, though exchange control is prohibited in principle.

(g) Apportionment is enforced in regard to scarce currencies.

3. Concerning the par values of currencies, the following provisions are made—

(a) Par value of the currency of each member shall be expressed in terms of gold or in terms of the U.S. currency with the weight and fineness as on June 1, 1944.

Gold shall not be bought or sold at a price which exceeds the agreed parity of its currency by more than the prescribed margin.

(b) Foreign exchange dealings shall be based on parity, no dealings otherwise based being permitted.

All members are held responsible for the maintenance of exchange stability and they are not allowed to change the par values of their currencies except on certain specified conditions and within certain limits.

In connection with the change in par value, separate currencies within a member's territories shall be regarded as the same as the metropolitan currency except where the member has otherwise especially declared.

4. Apart from the obligations concerning the par value of currency, the general obligations of members are laid down as follows:—

(a) No restrictions shall be imposed on current payments.

(b) Discriminatory currency practices shall be avoided.

(c) The convertibility of the foreign held balances shall be ensured, and a member shall repurchase its currency held by another member, on the latter's demand.

(d) The member countries shall submit their reports to the Fund.

(e) From some of the abovementioned obligations the members shall be exempted during the transition period—which is, as a rule, fixed at five years.

5. Administration and withdrawal from the membership are stipulated as follows:—

(a) The Fund shall have Board of Governors on which all member countries are represented.

The Board of Directors consists of no less than twelve Directors, five to be appointed by five members having the largest quotas, two to be elected by the Latin American Republics and five by other members.

Election shall be by proportional representation.

Each member shall have 250 votes plus one additional vote for each part of its quota equivalent to U.S. $100,000.

(b) A member can withdraw from the Fund by giving notice in writing.

A defaulting member shall be suspended from the use of the Fund's resources and its withdrawal from the Fund be demanded.

From what has been explained above, the operation of the Fund may be summarized as follows:

1. The Fund's resources amount to $8,800,000,000 of which about $2,200,000,000 is in gold and about $6,600,000,000 in members' currencies. The latter, which consists of the currencies of all member countries, constitutes 75 per cent of the quotas. For instance, it includes the U.S. currency amounting $2,000,000,000, the British currency amounting to £250,000,000 and the Soviet currency amounting to 2,000,000,000 roubles.

As already noted, the quotas total $8,800,000,000, of which the amounts subscribed by the "Big Five" are, if expressed in terms of the U.S. Dollar, $2,750,000,000 for America, $1,300,000,000 for Britain, $1,200,000,000 for the Soviet Union, $550,000,000 for Chungking and $450,000,000 for France. The quotas allotted to some Latin American countries are so small that the amount subscribed by one of them will be no more than $500,000 in the U.S. currency. As regards the voting power of the member countries, of all votes totalling 99,000, the United States holds 27,750 votes, Britain 13,250, the Soviet Union 12,250, Chungking 5,750 and France 4,750. America's votes account for a little over one-fifth of the total while the votes held by the "Big Five" total 63,750, or a little over three-fifths of the total.

2. The Fund supplies to a member country, on application, the sum required for settling the balance of payments with another member country and pays it to the latter country. That is, it carries on the business of clearing.

If A country wants to pay the amount owing to B country, A buys the currency of B from the Fund. The Fund sells to A the currency of B out of its holdings and transfers it to A. This diminishes the Fund's holdings of B's currency and increases its holdings of A's currency.

In purchasing currencies, the buying country pays into the Fund either its own currency or, in some cases, gold or the foreign currency specially designated by the Fund.

3. Besides the above, the Fund can perform gold operations.

(a) When the currency of a member held by the Fund exceeds its quota, the Fund may demand such member to repurchase the surplus in exchange for gold.

(b) The Fund can buy newly minded gold from members.

(c) The Fund receives in gold the charges levied on members.

(d) In case the Fund's holdings of the currency of a member become scarce, it buys the currency of the country concerned with gold.

VII

We have explained how the Fund is constituted and how it will be operated. Its salient characteristic may be summed up as follows:

(A) The Fund represents the multilateral clearing system.

The multilateral clearing system has never been tried before. About 1934, triangular clearing was temporarily in operation among the Danubian countries, but it was simply one of a provisional nature. After the outbreak of the present war, a similar system was adopted among Germany, France, Belgium, Denmark, Czechoslovakia and Hungary, but it was too a merely transitional method of settlement which the war exigencies called into being. It did not realize a regular multilateral payments system.

Why has the multilateral clearing system not been realized up to the present? The reason is, as Paul Einzig has pointed out, that international confidence requisite for its realization has been wanting.

The Fund is now attempting to realize this system. As to the feasibility of this proposal we shall see later. Now, seen from its characteristics, what the Fund aims at is the so-called concentrating clearing. It is clearing unique at the same time. It is not triangular payments, according to which payments are counterbalanced on consultation between the parties concerned, but that form of clearing according to which settlement is effected at the center. It has the same function as the unilateral form of clearing or clearing unique in that members can effect payments of their own free will regardless whether the cover is adequate or not.

In this respect, it follows the lines of the Keynes plan. As a clearing system, it is idealistic and of the highest order, aiming, as it does, at the creation of an International Clearing House. The only point of difference between the two is that while the Keyne's idea was to fix the quotas at the limit of the credits to be extended, the present plan calls upon the member countries actually to subscribe the amounts equivalent to their quotas so that settlement may be effected within the limits of the resources thus made available.

Accordingly, the Fund constitutes a clearing office, pure and simple; it is neither a bank nor the financial agent of a government. It is concerned with nothing except the settlement of the balance of payments. Its attitude is always passive in performing its principal functions.

(B) The Fund is analogous in form to the international gold standard.

For the successful working of the Fund whose activities are based on its holdings accruing from the quotas, the stabilization of the currencies of the member countries is pre-requisite. Accordingly, the Fund bases itself on gold and demands that the par values of the currencies of all member countries be expressed in terms of gold and all exchange rates be based on these par values.

Instead of adopting the gold unit common to all member countries such as "Bancor" suggested by Keynes or "Unitas" proposed by White, the Fund has adopted the U.S. currency—the U.S. Dollar with the weight and fineness as on June 1, 1944—as the standard by which to fix the par value of the currency of each member country.

However, the Fund does not embody the international gold standard, pure and simple, for it does not recognize the freedom of conversion in gold. Let us call the U.S. Dollar which does duty for "Bancor" or "Unitas" the "clearing Dollar" for convenience's sake. Now, a member country can buy "clearing Dollar" in exchange for gold, but it cannot always acquire gold in exchange for "clearing Dollar." Gold is paid out only when the Fund is engaged in active operation. That is to say, gold held by the Fund has only one-sided convertibility. When a member country repurchases the foreign held balance, the other party may sometime acquire gold, but it is at the option of the purchaser to pay either with gold or with the currency of the seller country. The latter has no choice in the matter.

(C) The Fund represents the free exchange system.

As one requisite for the successful execution of clearing, the Fund requires the member countries not to impose any exchange restrictions. As clearing is a system that has been developed with a view to avoiding the evil effects of exchange control or of the blocked balance resulting therefrom, it is not incorrect that exchange restrictions should be forbidden, as such restrictions seriously impede the working of the system, especially in the case of concentrating clearing which the Fund has in view. It is, however, from the necessity of maintaining par value in currencies and exchanges that the member countries are further forbidden to conclude bilateral exchange agreements among themselves or to engage in multiple currency practices.

In another respect, the Fund's clearing is different from the bilateral clearing arrangements in the past. It does not restrain the action of individual nationals of member countries. Except for the fact that the Government of member countries have the duty to extend legal protection of a special kind to the Fund and to restrain transactions between their nationals and those of non-member countries, the transactions of their nationals are left free. The Fund's clearing is intended for the settlement of the final balance of payments resulting from the accumulation of general transactions. It simply replaces gold shipments and other proceedings which private banks and Government organs have hitherto been carrying out.

VIII

The International Monetary Fund has thus been conceived, but it carries many defects, some of which are constitutional and some are due to the motives underlying its establishment.

Among its constitutional defects are the shortcomings inherent in the Fund's clearing system and the restrictive trait of the gold policy.

The clearing system itself contains many defects as has been amply proved by past experiences. It is true that the clearing system which has been found so defective in the past has invariably been bilateral, but it is obvious that the Fund's multilateral clearing is subject to the same defects, for these defects are due to the contractual nature characteristic of the clearing system which operates to restrict trade. The clearing system determines a frame within which to carry on trade over a certain limited sphere. The debtor country, while being facilitated in its imports, confines its exports within this sphere, and the creditor country finds itself unable to attain its object of expanding its exports through safe channels. In order to counteract the increasing imports of the debtor country, the creditor country has to restrict its own exports.

As to the trading with the countries outside of the agreement, it is either checked or has to be carried on by transit trade only. In the circumstances, the principle of buying from the cheapest market of the world is rendered unworkable. This disadvantage may be obviated in multilateral clearing thanks to the participation of many countries in the agreement, but the safe guards it provides are not sufficient for the trade of importing raw materials. Besides, under the plan adopted by the Fund to fix the quota for each member country, multilateral clearing can but bring practically the same result as bilateral clearing. For the currency in demand in excess of the stipulated quota becomes scarce at once, and the scarcity of free currency leads to the result similar to what happens in bilateral clearing. Nothing effective is done to obviate this disadvantage. Since, for reasons of policy, the Fund is denuded of the power of exerting pressure against the leading member countries, its multilateral clearing is, in effect, no better than bilateral clearing. The only redeeming point is the provision made for apportionment in regard to scarce currency, but this is, after all, a negative and ineffectual method. Altogether, we must conclude that the Fund's multilateral clearing is barren of effective safeguards against the restriction of trade which characterizes the clearing system.

Now, as to the gold policy of the Fund, it must be admitted that the method of linking the currencies of the member countries to gold and fixing their exchange rates on the basis of their par values is idealistic for stabilizing the exchange, but it is far from apposite to the actualities of the prevailing situation, in which gold and goods are no longer linked. To adopt the international gold standard in the existing circumstances would be a proposition absolutely out of the question.

(To Be Concluded)

TRADE PROGRAM FOR ASIA

Principle to Be Followed Is Economic Prosperity for All

By SHIGERU FUJII
Professor of Kobe Economic University
(Translated From the Toyo Keizai Shimpo)

I

One year has elapsed since the Joint Declaration of the Greater East Asiatic Nations containing the five basic principles was proclaimed. The guiding principle for economic prosperity, hoisted high up as the ideal goal of these nations' economic endeavors, has in the course of this one year been already partly realized through the enthusiastic and painstaking efforts of the one billion inhabitants of this part of the world.

In the United States and Britain, much discussions are reportedly taking place in regard to the postwar problems such as currency, foreign trade and natural resources. But their discussions lack clear principle, since their discussions are prompted more by their selfish motive of seeking their own self-interest only. Their discussions of these subjects are, after all, meaningless, based as they are on the illusory assumption of victory in the current war.

On the other hand, the efforts exerted in Greater East Asia for economic prosperity, have actually originated from the common ideal of the one billion brethren of this Region, who are firmly resolved to fight out this war to its glorious finish. Endeavors in the attainment of this lofty aim have been pushed in the midst of the war.

The conception of economic prosperity of the Greater East Asia Region is idealistic and at the same time practical; it is a postwar as well as a present problem.

The total power of the Greater East Asia Region has been mobilized in this war. As the modern war embraces all fields of activities, so the war in which we are at present engaged has its special feature in that it is also a total war to which the entire potentialities of the "wide region" have to be devoted.

This is the reason why the available resources of the collaborating countries within the Common Prosperity Region must be mobilized in conjunction with the direct war effort. The wartime foreign trade policy conducted under the above objective has as its task the coordination of the fighting power of the countries in Asia, and further of reinforcing the fighting potentialities of these countries.

This mutual assistance among the Asiatic countries is seen, especially in the present stage of the decisive battles, in the form of stressing on importation into Japan. For, the import are essential in strengthening Japan's production of the war materials needed in the prosecution of this war to its successful completion.

Japan is largely depending upon these collaborating countries for the raw materials for her war industry. The immediate problem that is confronting wartime foreign trade is, therefore, how to provide Japan rapidly with the war essentials. Every one of the countries within the Region should devote its utmost production to maintain and increase its supplies to Japan, for the sake of their common war against the United States and Britain.

As for exports from Japan to the other nations of the Region, an actual diminution has taken place. This, however, is unavoidable, because of the exacting wartime conditions: exports have had to decrease through the depletion of the stocks of commodities in Japan and through the conversion of her export industries to munitions industries. This reduction in the size of the exports, should, however, not be taken to indicate to mean that the tasks imposed upon the export industry have declined in importance.

The structure of the Common Prosperity Region does not make it necessary for the imports to be covered by exports at once, for, the collaborating countries share the common responsibility for the prosecution of this war and for the attainment of economic co-prosperity. Besides, adequate measures have been taken to solve Japan's excess of imports over exports. In so far as the excess of imports over exports can be settled that way, the ordinary theory of trade balance has to undergo revision.

Nevertheless, exports from Japan will continue to be as important as ever, as means for securing imports to Japan. For, the productive activities in other countries of Greater East Asia can be sustained only when they receive exports from Japan needed in the stabilization of their peoples' livelihood.

The commodities shipped from Japan are those needed to assure Japan's supply of the war materials. Among these are machines, equipment and other articles for the development of natural resources of these countries.

However bitter the war situation may turn out, the exportation of the above commodities has to be maintained by all means to assure the continued operation of the munitions industries in Japan. In other words, the task imposed upon wartime foreign trade, is to assure an unfailing execution of at least the above minimum exports from Japan. The fulfilment of this task makes the starting point for the firm establishment of the economic solidarity of the Common Prosperity Region.

What commodities are then to be shipped from Japan to the other parts of the Common Prosperity Region to meet the present and future requirements? They are, first, those classes of commodities the production of which is abundant in Japan; second, those keenly wanted by the various countries of the Region.

The fiber products and other merchandise of light industries were principally exported by Japan during the years before the outbreak of the current war. These commodities were at once staple export commodities from Japan and imports of the other countries in Greater East Asia.

The above two conditions have been subjected to drastic changes since the beginning of the current war. The capacity of the Japanese light industries, including the fiber industry, to look after foreign demands, has undergone a considerable reduction. Take the cotton spinning industry, for instance. By a series of conversions and amalgamation of the enterprises in the cotton spinning industry as well as in the weaving industry, their equipment has been so curtailed that the existing capacity does not leave much surplus after fulfilling the military demand. Account has also to be taken of the difficulties existing in respect to raw materials, labor, power, and transportation, which combine to cut down the production of these commodities. The fiber industry cannot reasonably be expected to have any big surplus for export abroad. On the other hand, the demand in the various countries of the Common Prosperity Region for clothing materials has been increasing particularly in the South Seas.

(To Be Concluded)

Horse Meat

Before Europe's conversion to Christianity, horse meat was much eaten at religious festivals held in honor of old pagan gods. Because of associations with heathenism, early Christian missionaries forbade its use as "meat offered to idols." Hence people gradually came to feel that there must be something repulsive in horse meat itself, and many still have this feeling without in the least knowing why. Various races have eaten it habitually. It formed the principal food of the Huns, Mongols and Tartars.